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THE TIMES

Colin Cowdrey on the
Melbourne
centenary Test, p 11

Terrorists threaten to behead hostages in Washington siege

Terrorists holding more than 100 hostages in three buildings in Washington were last night threatening to behead them unless their demands were met. The group, a Black Muslim sect, are insisting that five men convicted of murdering some of its members be delivered to them. All three buildings are besieged by police.

Vengeance demand over murders

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, March 10
Black fanatics calling themselves Muslims, who seized at least 100 hostages in three buildings here yesterday are threatening to behead them unless their demands are met. One man, a radio reporter, has been killed and at least six wounded, some of them seriously.
The killing was in the District Building, the Washington town hall, two blocks from the White House. A city councillor was wounded as Mr. Walter Washington, the mayor, and a number of other councillors, barricaded themselves in their offices until they were rescued by police in the early evening.
The other occupied buildings are the headquarters of B'nai B'rith, a Jewish philanthropic institution, and the Washington Islamic Centre, next to the mosque. The terrorists are Hanafi Muslims.
Their principal demands are that the five men convicted of murdering seven Hanafis, including five children, in 1973 should be delivered to them. They also want the murderers of Malcolm X, a leader of the Black Muslims, who was killed in 1965.
The leader of the terrorists, now under siege in the B'nai B'rith office, is Hassan Abdul Khalil, aged 54. Some of his followers were murdered in 1973, apparently as a result of a dispute among the Black Muslim sect. Mr. Khalil had led his followers out of the sect on the ground that its members were schismatic.
The Black Muslims claimed that their founder was a prophet, and that so was the



Mr Callaghan replies to President Carter's speech of welcome on the White House lawn.

All is jollity at first Callaghan-Carter meeting

From Fred Emery
Washington, March 10
President Carter and Mr. Callaghan ignored the terrorist-hostage nightmare continuing within view of the White House today and indulged in uncommon jollity at the start of their meeting.
The 19-gun salute was dropped from the arrival ceremony so as not to arouse the religious fanatics holding scores of people hostage. But otherwise all was jollity as President Carter expressed his revived Anglo-American special relationship, praised the Queen and said he looked forward to returning to the mother country at the economics summit in May.
Mr. Callaghan responded with a couple of jokes, praised Mr. Carter's "exciting" start as President and promised him full support. After the arrival ceremony, which was much more fulsome than the scaled-down reception accorded to the "working visit" of Mr. Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, the two men began talks in the Oval Office. In spite of the balmy spring day a log fire was blazing there.
The May economics summit, the two countries' recovery strategies including the emphasis on attacking youthful unemployment, and the dangers of protectionism were among the first topics discussed, according to British spokesmen. They had no set agenda and human rights policies when their 80-minute meeting concluded.
The warmth and geniality of the arrival speeches struck observers as exceptional. Mr. Carter is known for his effusiveness towards all his guests, but his remarks revealed a southern pride in his British origins.
Ever since the decline of Britain manifested itself at and after Suez in 1956, the phrase "special relationship" has been out of fashion. Mr. Heath and President Nixon had it born again as "a natural relationship", but Labour politicians (at least the Atlanticists among them) have a lingering affection for the cosy feeling it brings.
Mr. Carter indulged them. He wanted no reflection on other allies, but he made it clear that "we enjoy a special relationship with Great Britain and the other countries of the United Kingdom. They are our closest allies and friends." It had bred "unshakable friendship and mutual commitment".
The Prime Minister later told British reporters that Mr. Carter had repeated his special relationship commitment in private.
The President spoke of Americans "honouring the Queen" in her silver jubilee because she "has served so well". He concluded that, whatever the variety of Americans' origins, "all of us recognize that historically and politically Great Britain is still America's mother country".
Mr. Callaghan was clearly charmed so much so that he did not feel it appropriate to raise the difficulties over Concorde. That was left for tomorrow.
Mr. Callaghan, judging by his advance remarks and his speech Continued on page 8, col 5

Dispute cost 'The Times' 2½ million copies

The Times apologizes to its readers, advertisers, retailers and wholesalers for the interruption to production over the past 13 days which has resulted in the loss of 2.5 million copies and no editions for the issues of March 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10.
Initially there was two disputes, both unofficial, one with the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel (Natsop) machine room and other with the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (Sogat) publishing department. The Times' Both disputes had been referred earlier to the dispute procedure which exists between the newspaper publishers and the two unions; and meetings had already taken place.
The action that was taken which resulted in the loss of copies between February 24 and March 3 was unofficial and contrary to the advice of both unions.
After this disruption had lasted for seven days the company decided that they had no choice but to warn the chapels concerned that unless this disruption ceased the staff involved would be deemed to have terminated voluntarily their employment with the company. The chapels were informed on the evening of March 3 that an undertaking was required that they would work normally within the terms of the industry's agreements and that this undertaking must be given before the beginning of the production shift on March 3.
This undertaking was given by the Sogat chapel but not by the Natsop chapel. The Natsop chapel were then told that they had broken their contracts of employment by continually disregarding the agreed procedures and taking unilateral action against the company. The union's officials were kept informed at all times of the action that the company proposed to take.
At meetings held between the company and national and branch officers of Natsop on Saturday March 5 and Sunday March 6, variations to the working agreements were proposed and jointly agreed which would enable the union cause of the problem, which was about the cleaning of the presses, to be eliminated.
These proposals were put to the chapel by the national and branch officers of the union on the evening of March 6 but, although recommended, were not accepted by the members concerned.
The Executive Council of Natsop has issued instructions that all members of The Times machine chapel should resume the production of The Times on the basis of the agreed joint proposals on March 7. This instruction was disregarded until last night.
Our Labour Editor writes: The dispute ended when printing workers observed an instruction from Natsop to resume normal working.
Under terms originally rejected by the men at the weekend, more than 100 machine assistants were reinstated. An agreement had been reached which would enable the print machine cleaning to be done in a way that does not breach Continued on page 2, col 6

Earthquake city to put builders on trial

Bucharest, March 10.—President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania said today the designers and builders of some of the modern structures that collapsed in the devastating earthquake that struck the country last Friday would be prosecuted.
He said they would be charged with violating technical rules and failing to ensure the buildings were strong enough to withstand the earthquake, which has left at least 1,387 people dead.
The President, holding a rare press conference in the former royal palace, said Romania would press ahead with its ambitious economic plans despite the heavy damage.
He also virtually dismissed American warnings, passed on by Mr. Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, of the likelihood of another tremor within days or months, but he added, "one cannot be certain".
The President said the warning was "based on, incomplete and unreliable information and Romanian experts did not believe another disaster was imminent."
The state of emergency, imposed soon after the earthquake struck, was lifted today throughout Romania except in Bucharest. The President said it would probably be lifted in the capital on Monday after tens of thousands of soldiers, police and civilian workers had cleared away more rubble.
Mr. Ceausescu said the death toll had risen by 30 since yesterday to 1,387. He said the toll was bound to go up even more, especially in Bucharest. Outlining the magnitude of the disaster, President Ceausescu said tens of thousands of people needed new homes, which would be built within two years. The estimated cost of the damage to the country came to 6,000 million lei (about £300m). But even if this figure went up by a third, he said, Romania could still cope without cutting back on its plans.
Mr. Ceausescu said Romania's 1976-1980 five-year plan would not be affected by the extensive damage to factories, homes and other buildings.
"We shall overcome all our difficulties in the economic and social plan. Not only will the plan not be affected, but we shall ensure an even bigger increase in the economic and social field," he added.
Mr. Ceausescu said the only change to the economic plan would be to postpone until next year the introduction of a five-day working week.
Asked whether Romania planned to seek loans from the West, Mr. Ceausescu said the country would be grateful for help. "We would be grateful if everybody could give us credits on advantageous terms, including of course the United States."
"We would appreciate it if friendly countries supplied us with machinery and equipment... and each state granted any assistance which they can afford."—Reuters.
Jakarta, March 10.—An earthquake destroyed dozens of houses and injured at least four people in West Sumatra yesterday, officials said.—Reuters.

Bank lending rate cut signals cheaper loans

Minimum lending rate was cut by a full percentage point to 11 per cent yesterday, and Barclays Bank immediately cut its base lending rate from 11½ per cent to 10½ per cent. The other big clearing banks are expected to follow suit today, which should mean cheaper loans. But there is still no indication that the building societies are prepared to make an immediate cut in their rates. The Bank of England's decision to cut M.L.R. reflects the general easing in money market conditions over the past few days. It follows a period of some six weeks when the Bank attempted to moderate the fall in interest rates by holding M.L.R. at 12 per cent, despite prevailing market conditions. Page 27

Prison staff are criticized

The management and staff of Leicester prison and the police are criticized in a report on the escape of William Thomas Hughes, who killed four members of a family after breaking away from prison officers, escorting him to court. The inadequacy of a search for a knife, missing from the prison kitchen and weaknesses of communication within the prison and with the police are mentioned. Page 2

Globtik Venus dispute over

A settlement has been reached between Mr. Ravi Tikoo, the shipping magnate, and maritime union leaders on the wage demands of 38 Filipino crew of the Globtik Venus, bringing industrial peace to the Globtik tanker fleet. Page 8

SNP produces revolution Bill

The Scottish National Party has prepared its own Bill for the introduction of a Scottish assembly in September. It is offering the proposals to the Government as a replacement for the devolution legislation now before the Commons. Page 2

Mr Benn overrules Price Commission on gas charges

By Roger Violevo
Energy Correspondent
Objections by the Price Commission to a 10 per cent increase in gas prices from April 1 were overruled yesterday by Mr. Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy.
The commission told Mr. Benn that the British Gas Corporation's application did not conform to the price code. The minister will sign a special order soon to enable nationalised industries to introduce higher prices outside the terms of the code.
British Gas made the application as the result of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's statement in December that it would be required to reduce its public-sector borrowing by £100m.
Prices will be increased from the first meter reading after April 1, but because there will be a delay of up to three months in acquiring the extra cash the corporation has asked for rises that will bring in £140m a year. Without increased revenue of that size it would not get all the £100m needed in the 1977-78 financial year to reduce its high interest borrowing.
British Gas and the National Gas Consumers' Council have agreed that the average 10 per cent increase will be part of a major reorganization of tariffs, which will help to reduce some of the wide regional variations in prices.
The two domestic tariffs will be replaced with a single tariff so that all gas users buy their supply at the most beneficial rate.

Leyland toolroom strikers reject formula for a return to work

By Clifford Webb
Hopes of a speedy end to the Leyland Cars toolroom dispute receded last night when the 63-strong strike committee rejected a peace formula reached at Wednesday's meeting between their union's national executive council and delegates from district committees.
Yesterday's decisive "no" is a slap in the face for Mr. Hugh Scanlon, the engineering union leader, and will ensure that he faces a hot reception when he visits Birmingham today to address a mass meeting of all 3,000 toolroom strikers.
After Wednesday's meeting had produced a formula acceptable to the toolroom members present, it was thought that today's mass meeting would pave the way to a full return to work on Monday morning.
Now, Mr. Scanlon clearly has a personal fight on his hands to prevent the rebel toolmakers from making a mockery of his leadership and the union rule-book.
The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers specifically rejects wage negotiations by groups of its members seeking special treatment—the core of the toolmakers' stand.
At yesterday's meeting in a Birmingham public house they passed the following resolution: "That this toolroom committee rejects the formula recommended by the delegate committee after yesterday's meeting of the executive council. This in no way relates to the aspirations of the toolroom workers of Leyland Cars. Our main objectives remain the same—that until it is agreed by the British Leyland management to meet and discuss wage disparities, anomalies, and the recognition of our committee, we do not recommend a return to work."
Mr. Roy Fraser, chairman of the strike committee, said this would be put to today's mass meeting as a counter-resolution to the call for an end to the strike.
He refused to give details of the way he and other toolroom delegates had voted at Wednesday's meeting.
Government stands by Chrysler rescue; Massey-Ferguson workers go back. Page 27

Pit leaders reject new round of pay controls

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor
Leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers returned to the income policy fray yesterday with fresh warnings that there cannot be a third year of pay restraint.
Mr. Joseph Gormley, the union's president, also argued that a general price freeze of the kind proposed by Mr. Jack Jones, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union, was "completely unrealistic".
The NUM executive accepted on behalf of the 250,000 members a 5 per cent pay deal consistent with the present wage restraint but reserved their position on the development of the social contract. Mr. Gormley said there was not a "cat in hell's chance" of the miners accepting a third year of wage curbs.
In a new broadside against income policy he questioned the TUC's economic arithmetic and said inflation could not be brought down to single figures by the end of the year.
The way forward on income policy depended on forthcoming talks between the TUC and the Chancellor of the Exchequer after his Budget, on March 29 and particularly upon the amount of flexibility conceded by the Government. Mr. Gormley said.
The miners are insisting that although they accept present pay limits they will not observe the rule that forbids another pay rise before March 1, 1978. Mr. Gormley wants to be free to negotiate a productivity deal with the National Coal Board to come into operation from August 1.
On Mr. Jones's price freeze proposals he added: "It isn't possible. So why not come out into the open, as I have always liked to, and tell the people the facts of life?"
Mr. Gormley's ill disguised scorn for the Jones formula for an immediate general freeze on fares, fuel and food prices brings into the public gaze the view shared by other union leaders that a price freeze is neither practical nor desirable, and in the unlikely event of being implemented might rebound on jobs and prices.
The TUC economic committee has warned the Government that without more stringent price controls negotiations of a third round of income policy will be very difficult. Union leaders are thinking more in terms of a standstill of up to 12 months on certain essential goods and services rather than the general freeze advocated by the transport union executive.
Mr. Jones had proposed the immediate price freeze after talks at Congress House on Wednesday between the TUC economic committee and Mr. Hattersley, Secretary of State for Consumer Protection, Mr. John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury.
Mr. Jones said that if the 5 per cent limit was to be held some action had to be taken on prices.

Poll writ for Jenkins seat

The Government is expected to move the writ for the by-election at Birmingham, Stechford, in the Commons today. It will mean polling on March 31, two days after the Budget.
The seat has been vacant since Mr. Jenkins, the former Home Secretary, resigned to become President of the European Commission.
In the general election Mr. Jenkins polled 23,075 votes, 11,923 more than Mr. David Westwood (Conservative). Mr. Graham Gossip (Liberal) polled 5,850.
Lord Thorneycroft, chairman of the Conservative Party, yesterday predicted an October general election.

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HOME NEWS

LSE head says level of increased fees and method of announcing them 'border on the irresponsible'

By Robert Parker
Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, Director of the London School of Economics, has been criticised recently by students protesting at proposed tuition fee increases and the structure of the grant system, saying today that the increases, their level, and the method of their announcement "border on the irresponsible".

In an article in *The Times Higher Education Supplement* Professor Dahrendorf makes a comparison between the nature of student unrest in the late 1960s and the present widespread protests about grants and fees. He finds important differences.

Professor Dahrendorf writes that, even apart from the question of differentials, the increased tuition fees change the system of university finance by stealth, and introduce an anti-postgraduate and anti-overseas policy through the back door, placing additional burdens on local authorities in the process. It takes either great ignorance or great ignorance to introduce such a system, and the sooner it is thoroughly revised the better.

He says it was not difficult to predict what would happen in the livelier universities of the country during the carnival season as a result of the government's "cavalier" attitude. But he adds that the nature of recent protests, which he calls "the new restlessness", was very different from the student activities of the late 1960s.

"The surprising fact is what the new restlessness is about, for its objectives are totally different from those of the late 1960s, and they mirror a development in the educational scene which is dramatic and disturbing."

"No one British working-class child is deprived of tertiary education by the new system of fees, although some may find postgraduate education, or midway changes of subject, a little more difficult now. I do not say this to offer excuses for indefensible fees, I say it to bring out the rationale, if any, of a new wave of student unrest."

The disturbances in the late 1960s were active, self-confident and riding on the crest of a wave, he maintains. The recent troubles involved a less confident attempt to maintain the status quo.

The recent protests were against "threats to some which feed the latest fear of many in higher education that things will get worse and worse and that this deterioration has to be stopped."

"The motive of unrest is fear, fear of an uncertain future. Such fear is shared by lecturers and professors, university administrators and vice-chancellors. Not surprisingly, therefore, many of them have found it useful to join their restless students in their demands."

But few would deny that

students in the late 1960s felt that the future was theirs. Education, particularly tertiary education, had gone through a phase of unprecedented expansion.

"Those involved in it saw great opportunities, both in the narrow sense of job opportunities and in the wider sense of influencing society at large."

"But this phase was almost unbelievably short-lived. Strange as it may seem, the rising class of the late 1960s has become the declining class in the late 1970s. The successors of those who thought 10 years ago that the future was theirs are now worried about their future, defensive, demanding protection rather than asserting confidence."

Professor Dahrendorf says tertiary education probably ranks with aid to developing countries as one of the most unpopular issues in the political debate. "In a very real sense, tertiary education has become a declining industry (if that is the word for places of the leisurely pursuit of learning)."

"Perhaps the present crisis of education will teach us a useful lesson about the limits of the much exaggerated link between educational and the occupational systems, and thus give education its proper place."

"Altogether, students today reflect the plight of many groups in our society, clinging to what they have got rather than groping for something new."



A part of Palma Vecchio's "A blond woman", specially cleaned to be one of 22 Venetian paintings the National Gallery is lending to the Wallraf-Richartz-Museum, Cologne.

BMA call for 'hotel' charges in hospitals

By a Staff Reporter
A new financial structure for the National Health Service should include "hotel" charges for a stay in hospital, increased prescription charges, and an insurance-based health service fund, the British Medical Association has recommended.

At a special meeting to complete its evidence to the Royal Commission on the National Health Service the BMA decided that payment at the time of use, with appropriate exemptions, was necessary to raise extra finance for the health service.

It suggested the creation of the new fund into which the Government would pay to cover the health care of disadvantaged groups such as the old, children, long-stay patients and others. The working population would pay a new flat-rate insurance contribution, plus "hotel" charges to help to cover the cost of food, light and heat while they were in hospital.

The meeting agreed that the National Health Service needed an extra £2,000m and urged the royal commission to investigate methods of financing in European health-care systems, where patients paid fees to doctors and received them later from the social security system, when eligible.

The meeting did not define the scale of charges to be imposed, but in the past BMA working parties have suggested that patients might pay £2 a day while in hospital and £1 a time for prescriptions.

The central argument of the BMA submission will be that Exchequer-based finance of the health service has failed.

Evidence on health service manpower will include a paper prepared by leaders of the 15,000 junior hospital doctors. It calls for an immediate cut of 800 to 2,800 in the intake of medical schools. The meeting was told that medical schools were producing too many doctors.

The Faculty of Community Medicine, in its submission to the royal commission, suggested that health education must go beyond the "captive groups" of schoolchildren and expectant mothers to older adult groups, particularly those whose examples could strongly influence the young.

The faculty, which was formed in 1972 by the three Royal Colleges of Physicians, said there should be two principal themes in health education: the inculcation of healthy patterns of behaviour and appropriate use of the health services.

Crop prices 'high'
Shortage of home-grown vegetables will keep prices high until June, when the new season's crops come in, the National Federation of Fruit and Potato Traders predicted yesterday.

Students end sit-in
Hull University students, who had occupied the administration wing since Monday as a protest against higher tuition fees, left when a bailiff arrived with a High Court injunction yesterday.

Libel damages of 1p for retired specialist

Dr Maurice Bloom, aged 74, a retired specialist in marital difficulties, was awarded a half-penny libel damages in the High Court yesterday over a newspaper report which he maintained accused him of being incompetent and irresponsible in signing an abortion certificate.

Because of the jury's "derisory" award, Dr Bloom, who was born in South Africa, was ordered to pay a large part of the estimated £20,000 costs of his nine-day action against the *News of the World*, Mr Peter Stephens, the newspaper's editor in 1974, and Michael Litchfield and Susan Kenish, both journalists. His share of the costs is estimated at about £15,000.

Dr Bloom had contended that the article, "My Phantom Baby", published in the *News of the World* in March, 1974, accused him of being irresponsible and incompetent in signing a certificate for a therapeutic abortion.

The defendants said the article, which described how Mr Litchfield and Mrs Kenish, posing as a married couple, had been referred to Dr Bloom

Churchgoer rule dropped for adoptions

Couples who want to adopt or foster children through the Church of England Children's Society no longer need to be churchgoers. The change in policy was announced in a report yesterday but committed activists will still be ruled out.

Six years ago the society, which places 400 children a year, dropped its insistence on a Church of England upbringing for the children and said parents need only be members of a Christian denomination.

The new report, from a working party chaired by the Bishop of Willesden, the Right Rev G. H. Thompson, says many children have been waiting for foster-homes and the imposition of religious requirements added to the difficulty. In future adopting parents will have to be committed to a Christian way of life.

EEC milk move 'threat to biscuit names'

By Hugh Clayton
Biscuit makers said yesterday that names such as cream crackers and custard creams might disappear because of efforts by the EEC to move its milk "mountain". The commission, which has to buy up surplus milk, wants to use such words as cream butter and milk in products that include other fats. British product names up to a century old would be outlawed.

The commission wants to make food processors use milk fat in products in which mixtures of vegetable fats are given a texture reminiscent of that of cream.

Lord Montagu, director of the alliance, which represents most large makers of cake and biscuits, said yesterday: "It is quite wrong to try to shift the Commission's milk powder and butter 'mountains'."

Science report
Biology: Milestone in genetics

New techniques for reading the genetic code developed by Dr F. Sanger and his associates at the Medical Research Council's laboratories in Cambridge, have led to a milestone in modern biology. The Cambridge team has just achieved the first complete analysis of the entire DNA genetic blueprint of an organism.

The organism in question is a virus known as phi X174, an analysis of its complete genetic masterplan has shown that even the building of a simple virus can be a complicated matter.

The genetic instructions for making phi X174, like the genetic instructions for making a living thing, are encoded in the chemistry of DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid). DNA consists quite simply of a long string of four kinds of chemical subunit (nucleotides). From that four-letter alphabet, the instructions for building anything from a virus to an elephant can be spelt out.

Until the development of new techniques for analyzing the sequence of subunits in the string, it could take about a year to "read" 100 nucleotides. Now 100 nucleotides can be sequenced in a few days.

Because viruses are extremely simple, comprising only a strand of DNA wrapped in a protein coat, it is possible to make a direct comparison of the genetic blueprint with its final product. One curious feature of phi X174, marked out to be made more proteins than it ought to have been able to code within its entire DNA strand.

Now that they have the complete sequence of the nucleotides in the strand, the Cambridge biologists have been able to solve genetic code puzzles. The DNA alphabet is read in three-letter "words", triplets of three nucleotides each of which specifies one amino acid in the amino acid chain of which all proteins are made. So each different sequence of nucleotide triplets produces a different sequence of amino acids and thus a different protein.

It turns out that the DNA of phi X174 contains overlapping instructions. Instead of having genes in which the sequence coding one protein ends where the next one begins, it is organized so that more than one protein can be read from overlapping stretches of DNA, by shifting the reading frame.

Usually, such "frame shifts" generate biological nonsense. The surprising evolutionary feat of phi X174 has been to produce DNA sequences which make sense in more than one frame. So far, no other instance of overlapping genetic information has been found, but the new sequencing techniques may well reveal more as research on DNA continues.

The research has also made it possible to identify the "start" and "stop" signals for reading the genetic sequence. Those are the simplest and most fundamental of the controls that exist in living things to regulate the translation of the genetic code. Further research will be aimed at understanding some of the much more complicated regulatory chemistry that goes into the making of complex animals.

By Nature Times News Service
Source: *Nature*, Feb 24 (255, 687; 1977)
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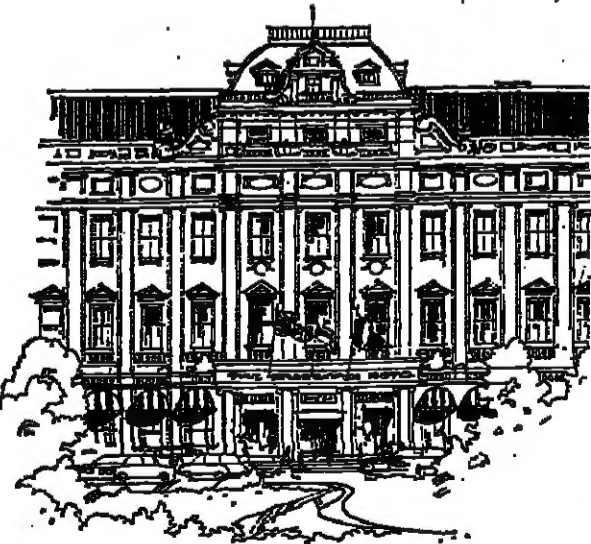
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cost. The 250 bedrooms all have bath and shower, central heating, radio and TV. As for restaurants, there is the choice of the 'Happy Casserole' or the 'Coffee Shop'; the character is different but both have delicious fare. The University and Coram bars also offer a peaceful air with your beer or cocktails.

If you'd like that welcomed feeling, you'll enjoy it here. The Bloomsbury Centre Hotel is in Coram Street, WCL. Reservations on 01-837 1200.

Skyline Hotel. A truly de luxe hotel at Heathrow that offers every modern comfort and convenience; ideal whether you're dispelling jet lag or just staying out of town. The hotel is built round the Patio Caribe which has exotic tropical plants and a shaped swimming pool with bar. The 360 spacious rooms are extremely luxurious; each is period designed, has colour TV, deep pile carpets and extra long beds. The Skyline Chefs are famous for their exciting, imaginative food which you eat in the charming Colony Room. (Or you may prefer an evening in Diamond Lil's Western Saloon).

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The unique Churchill is a firm international favourite with those who want the best. The Churchill, Portman Square, London W1. Reservations on 01-486 5800.

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It's easy to get tickets for shows and tours from the desk—but at times you may simply want to sit back in the commodious lounge. Flemings Hotel is at 7-12 Half Moon Street, W1. Reservations on 01-499 2964.

Basil Street Hotel. The 'Basil', as it is familiarly known by its many regulars, must be one of the most perfectly situated, and

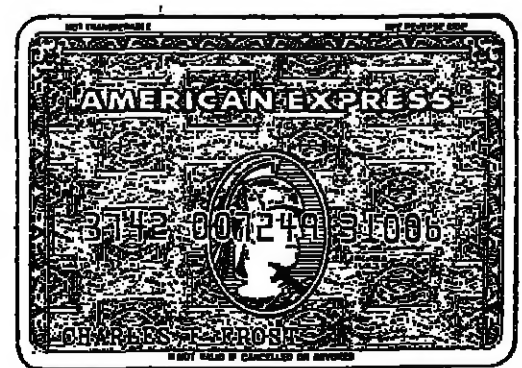


perfectly English, hotels in London. Harrods and many other top London stores are just round the corner from this gracious 'Country House' with 113 beautifully appointed bedrooms. The Green Dining Room is reputed to be one of the loveliest to look-at in London, with musical soirees on Sunday nights. There's also a wine bar for lighter meals and music.

As soon as you enter the 'Basil', there's an aura of quiet, elegant charm and the Management and Staff take great care over the comfort and well-being of their guests. The Basil Street Hotel, Knightsbridge, SW3. Reservations on 01-730 3411.

Royal Crescent Hotel. Brighton is a charming place to visit, whether for a weekend or longer. And the Regency-styled Royal Crescent Hotel is the perfect place to stay. Situated in Marine Parade, there is a delightful view of the sea from some of the 66 rooms. Everything has been done to ensure your comfort, from the complete central heating to the truly excellent and varied cuisine, which includes a moderately-priced Table d'Hôte. It's hardly surprising that the hotel is so well recommended by the major Guides; the sophisticated comfort is supported by superlative service.

The Royal Crescent Hotel, 100 Marine Parade, Brighton, Sussex. Reservations on Brighton 66311.



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HOME NEWS

Civil servants rehearse arguments against former Prime Ministers' call to break up the Treasury

By Peter Hennessy

Suggestions from two former Prime Ministers that the Treasury should be broken up have reopened and sharpened a classic, internal debate in Whitehall about the power, size and shape of the central departments of state.

The advocacy of Mr Edward Heath and Sir Harold Wilson before the Commons Select Committee on Expenditure has stimulated counter-arguments within the government machine in support of the status quo, although the present Prime Minister has not yet asked for contingency plans to be drawn up for a fundamental reorganization.

Should Mr Callaghan do so, he can expect a long list of practical objections to be set alongside the expected gains in removing the Treasury's public expenditure divisions from Great George Street to form, with the manpower divisions of the Civil Service Department, a new ministry of Budget and manpower as recommended by his two predecessors.

The suggested reform would end one anomaly, by reuniting spending decisions with their manpower component (an important element in the cost of central government), only at the expense of creating a host of new illogicalities, the argument runs. Managing the public sector borrowing requirement, for example, would be hindered by splitting its two determinants, taxation and expenditure.

Separating the decision on the total size of public expenditure, a crucial element in the Government's overall economic judgement from the Treasury's forecasting apparatus would

lead to damaging incoherence in Whitehall policy-making. The opponents of change rest their case on the argument that central economic management is a "seamless robe".

The possible fate of the Treasury's domestic economy sector is used as an illustration of the difficulties involved. Would its responsibility for pricing policy in the nationalized industries stay in the Treasury, or would it join public sector investment in the new Budget ministry?

Decision-taking on a host of other issues, the Treasury believes, would be wastefully divided by reorganization, requiring separate decisions on the taxation and expenditure components of transport, housing, agriculture and food policy, the tax and benefits sides of poverty relief and the relationship between tax, spending and monetary policy in providing incentives for industry.

Supporters of Treasury unity would maintain that its internal reorganization in 1975 enhanced the coherence of decision-making in all those areas and that dismemberment would more than undo the gains. The feeling in Great George Street is that the almost unbroken succession of economic crises in 1976 could not have been handled without the reforms of the previous year, and that life would have been impossible had there been a built-in fissure between the Treasury and a financial ministry and as a separate department.

Although it is seen as a more rational split than the deliberate overlaps with the Treasury left by the creation of the Department of Economic Affairs in 1964, an experiment dis-

continued five years later, a division of responsibility between Finance and Budget, the critics of Mr Heath and Sir Harold contend, would impose a high cost in disrupting the machinery of Government for several years.

The attack on its power did not take Great George Street entirely by surprise. Before the two former Prime Ministers gave their views on the Treasury, Sir John Hunt, Secretary of the Cabinet, fulfilling the civil servant's role of presenting the options, told the select committee how dismemberment could take place as one of several possibilities open to the Prime Minister.

The Treasury knew Sir John's intentions in advance. Indeed, every Monday (the day the select committee meets) Whitehall's big three, Sir John, Sir Douglas Allen from the Civil Service Department and Sir Douglas Wicks from the Treasury, have luncheon together in the Cabinet Office mess.

Should Mr Callaghan instruct the Treasury to read itself in twain, his wishes would be swiftly carried out and new interdepartmental machinery set up overnight to minimize the severance. Not for nothing were old Treasury hands recalling last week the words of Sir Laurence (now Lord) Halsey, then Head of the Home Civil Service, on the eve of the 1964 general election.

With Labour's plans for a Department of Economic Affairs in mind, he told his Treasury knights: "Gentlemen, from tomorrow we may be required to stand on our heads. If we are, we will stand on them efficiently."

Man in the news: Mr Alan Lord

Abrasive activist enters industry

By Peter Hennessy

Mr Alan Lord, aged 47, the "flier" in the galaxy of Treasury permanent secretaries, who surprised Whitehall on Wednesday with the news of his departure to join Dunlop, has always shown a practical bent.

As a teenager going up to Cambridge from Rochdale, just after the war, he decided he was probably not up to the examination for the old administrative class of the Civil Service but that a career in the Colonial Service might be within his grasp. A knowledge of tribalism would be an asset to a future district commissioner and so it was on the Anthropology Tripos that he cut his intellectual teeth.

But it was the Board of Inland Revenue and not the bush that acquired his services in 1950. He regards the Inland Revenue as the best kind of training a young civil servant can get, as does Sir Harold Wilson, who singled out Mr Lord's progress for praise before the Commons Select Committee on Expenditure last week.

It was as an assistant secretary that Mr Lord, then aged 35, acquired the scar marking that signified him out as a future permanent secretary. In 1964 he sat two rooms away from Professor Nicholas (now Lord) Kaldor in Somerset House and turned the celebration of Labour's tax expert into the usable form of a capital gains tax in five months between Labour's election victory and Mr Callaghan's first Budget. He says it was the most demanding job he had done and it put him in hospital for a time.



Mr Alan Lord: "Going to the coalface."

It was even more punishing than the battle royal in the Department of Industry in 1974 in which he and others struggled to sort out Labour's industrial policy in the era of Mr Wedgwood Benn and compulsory planning agreements. The result was stand-off, with the Industry Bill being taken away from his officials and ministers in Victoria Street and put in the Cabinet Office by the Prime Minister.

Unusually young at 46 for a member of the Treasury's top team, in October, 1975, he was brought in to run its new domestic economy sector, the cutting edge of Mr Healey's attempt to fill the hole left

by the demise of the Department of Economic Affairs by bringing the industrial dimension more directly into high economic policy-making.

His chairmanship of the Industrial Strategy Group, a monthly meeting of officials from Whitehall economic departments, the National Economic Development Council, the nationalized industries, the TUC and CBI, gave him a crucial role in the Government's efforts to turn round decades of decline in Britain's manufacturing industry, and he was widely regarded as the best of the new breed of activist civil servant.

By making abrasiveness a virtue, he won his share of detractors. Full of Northern earthiness, he liked to chat about shop stewards being the kind of lads with whom he went to Rugby League matches back in his Rochdale days. He talks of joining Dunlop as "working at the coalface".

If the industrial strategy does well, Alan Lord will get much of the credit. His contribution was to urge that it should be built from the ground up rather than imposed from the top. By concentrating on increased penetration of the world market by important industries, he believes an initiative has been taken that should survive the short-term vicissitudes that have bedevilled the British economy since the war.

The public should taste a little of his evangelism on such matters, as he intends to write during the mandatory three months' moratorium before a senior civil servant can join the private sector.

Business News, page 21

Restrict press monopoly groups, professor says

Evidence submitted to the Royal Commission on the Press today calls for the setting up of an independent press authority modelled on the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

The four main tasks of such a body would be to operate a levy on "excess" profits; to use the money raised for grants and loans to help new publications to come into being; to negotiate with their present owners the sale of vital newspapers and magazines to restrict the growth of monopolies; and to represent the interest of readers.

Professor Jeremy Tunstall, Professor of Sociology at the City University, London, author of several studies on journalists and the press, and until last summer a consultant to the royal commission, presents his evidence under the title *Will Fleet Street Survive until 1984?*

He answers the question with a negative. Fleet Street will not survive, at least in its present form. He expects one, perhaps two, national newspapers to disappear.

The introduction of computer technology into Fleet Street will not, he adds, save newspapers already under pressure. He believes that neither the Government, nor outside industrial concerns, particularly oil companies, nor other big newspaper groups should be allowed to rescue threatened newspapers.

If no small provincial newspaper or magazine group wants to buy them, he says, "sitting Fleet Street's dailies should be allowed to die".

important role of oil interests in the behavior of several of the biggest newspaper groups; and the failure to recognize that the crisis of the British press is not financial but rather a matter of political economy and legitimacy.

Britain's press is owned by a more tightly concentrated group than any other comparable industrial nation, he says. Eight companies control more than four fifths of all daily and Sunday newspaper sales.

Fleet Street's troubles, however, mainly concerned the newspaper's newspapers. *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Sunday Telegraph*, *The Guardian*, which were not part of big groups. But for all costs continued to rise while revenue declined.

There was also the matter of the increasing polarization between the popular tabloid newspapers, which were dependent on sales and locked into a sales war which could end only in death, and newspapers that depended much more on advertising revenue.

The overall result was that there was too much competition in Fleet Street with not enough revenue to support all the present publications. In the provinces there was too much monopoly in that most people had no real choice of evening newspaper. The effect of that was "excessively bland journalism".

The growing links between publishing, groups and oil interests are an important source of concern for Professor Tunstall. By rescuing *The Observer*, he says Atlantic Richfield threatened *The Sunday Telegraph* and indirectly *The Daily Telegraph*. Such subsidies also maintained rather than eliminated Fleet Street's present ills.

Goods servicing complaints increasing

By Our Commercial Editor

Complaints by consumers about the servicing of a wide range of goods are mounting, according to the annual report of the Director General of Fair Trading, published yesterday.

Complaints about the servicing of motor vehicles rose by 64 per cent in the year ended September 1976, compared with the previous 12 months. Those about cleaning services were up 35 per cent, about footwear by 25 per cent, about radio and television by nearly 12 per cent and about washing machines, refrigerators and cleaners by nearly 10 per cent.

Among complaints about goods the steepest rises were for motor vehicles (up 35 per cent to 44,438), furniture (up 32 per cent to 32,142) and clothing (up nearly 17 per cent to 41,795).

But there was a significant fall in the number of complaints about radio, television and hi-fi equipment and manufactured foods and drinks.

Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, states in the report that the increase in complaints about lack of progress in implementing the Consumer Credit Act, 1974. Many traders offering credit facilities to the public were late in applying for licences, and that delayed the first stage of the licensing programme.

More codes of practice are being discussed, Mr Borrie reports. Four were brought in last year. Talks have been held with trade associations representing the vehicle, tyre and furniture industries, and preliminary ones with others, including mail order publishers.

Law Report March 10 1977

Court of Appeal

Sexual cases: proper approach to sentencing

Regina v Taylor and Others
Before Lord Justice Lawton. Mr Justice MacKenna and Mr Justice Gibson

[Judgment delivered March 4]
Sentences of imprisonment imposed on three men who had unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl of 14 were justified because, although the girl was a wanton and the men did not corrupt her, they confirmed her in her wantonness, and the purpose of the law was to protect such girls.

The Court of Appeal refused applications for leave to appeal against sentence by David Eric Roberts, aged 22, Geoffrey Simons, aged 28, and David Roy Taylor, aged 26, all of Derbyshire, who were convicted at Nottingham Crown Court (Judge Woods) of having unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under the age of 16.

Mr J. D. Wilcock for the applicants.
LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that the applicants had pleaded guilty to having unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl who at the material time was 14. Roberts was sentenced to two months' imprisonment, and Simons and Taylor to four months. The offences with which they were charged could be described as simple offences, as they had each had sexual intercourse with the girl on many occasions.

The girl was undoubtedly a wanton. She was experienced in sexual matters before she met the three applicants. She kept a diary in which she recorded her sexual exploits.

Roberts said that she made approaches to him. At first he rejected them, but later succumbed and had sexual intercourse with her on many occasions. That went on for several months.

During that time the girl made approaches to Simons, and he started to have sexual intercourse with her. He knew all about her because she lived near the yard where he carried on business. Taylor was employed by Simons and must have known what was going on because she frequented the yard, and was sent away by the men working there. According to the girl, masturbation and oral sex took place with all the applicants. Roberts and Simons did not admit that oral sex took place, and that the court accepted. Taylor admitted there was oral sex between him and the girl.

The court was prepared to accept that each of the applicants was a man of good character and that the girl was a wanton. Some of her activities in the way of oral sex showed how she had become debauched before she met the applicants. There was no suggestion that they had corrupted her, but there was a connection between them. The men were treating her as the village whore. Their only interest in her was their own sexual gratification. They were getting their sexual gratification with a girl of 14, and two of them knew she was going to school.

It was submitted that the fact the girl had had intercourse with the applicants in these circumstances lessened the gravity of the offence. The court would not approach the case on that basis. Corruption, however, continued the girl's debauchery knowing how young she was; it was not a case of a man succumbing to the girl's seduction, and he regretted it after. These men went on and on and on, for their sexual gratification.

The trial judge was concerned with his responsibility. He passed sentences on February 18. In the weeks immediately before there had been considerable discussion in the media concerning the way in which the courts should deal with these cases. Cases had been reported of considerable leniency being extended to those convicted. There was a case of a young man being given a conditional discharge, which was the lowest form of penalty a Crown Court could impose for an indict-

able offence. Judges were reported as having made comments that such cases were not all that serious.

There was one case in which the Court of Appeal had shown leniency. The public, however, did not know the facts, and if they did they would not be surprised at the court's leniency. It appeared that the public did not appreciate the wide spectrum of guilt covered by the offence of unlawful sexual intercourse with a girl under 16. At one end was the young who started off in a virtuous friendship with a girl under 16 and ended up having sexual intercourse with her. At the other end was the man in a supervisory capacity, such as a school master or a social worker who set out to seduce a girl in his charge. The two types of case were very different. Most judges would take the view that in the case of a virtuous friendship ending in sexual intercourse it would be wholly inappropriate to impose a punitive sentence, whereas the man in the supervisory capacity ought to expect something more than the maximum sentence allowed by law, two years' imprisonment.

In between there was a vast variety of penalties. The youth who picked up a girl at a local dance hall and ended up behind a bush having sexual intercourse with her should be fined. An older man in his twenties who picked up young girls at a dance could expect to go to prison. A young man who deliberately set out to seduce a girl under 16 should expect detention; an older man should expect prison. Such was the variety of penalties.

Mr Wilcock did not try to persuade the court that the climate of opinion in 1977 had changed. Judges were not in a position to decide if the climate of opinion had changed. Their background and life made it impossible for them to know what went on all over the country, in factories and offices. Their duty was to apply the law of the land.

For over 700 years the law of this country had concerned itself with offences committed when a man had intercourse with a young girl. In 1576 it was a misdemeanour to have intercourse with a girl under 12. In 1875 Parliament raised the age to 13, and in 1885 raised it again to 16. One reason for raising the age was to make it more difficult for young girls to drift into prostitution. In 1922 Parliament again considered the law. Far from relaxing it, it made it more severe and it became no defence that the man believed the girl to be over 16 (except in the case of a man under 24).

Once again, in 1956, Parliament looked at the whole range of sexual offences and incorporated them into the Sexual Offences Act, 1956. That was a modern Act, so it could not be said it was a law dating back to Victorian times. The range of guilt was as wide then as there was ample room for mercy. In case it should be thought that the law of England reflected Victorian morality, it should be noted that the range of consent in most countries was 16. It was 16 in Scotland, Italy, Germany, Norway, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and the United States. In the USSR it was 18. In Denmark it was 15.

Their Lordships were very conscious that the girl was a wanton, that she approached the men, and that they in no way initiated her corruption. They treated her as a whore many times. The law reflected the protection of wanton girls—the type who wandered from the village to the local town and from there to London. The evil that these men did was to confirm her in her wantonness. That was exactly what Parliament intended to stop. It could only be stopped by a court's sentence, to take immediate effect.

The applications for leave to appeal against sentence were refused.

Solicitors: Registrar of Criminal Appeals.

Retirement tributes to Lord Justice Cairns

Lord Justice Cairns, a member of the Court of Appeal since 1970, retired on Friday after 51 years in the law. He sat as a judge in the Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division from 1960 to 1970.

Tributes were paid to his Lordship in Court 19 where he has presided for several years. Mr John Mills, QC, said, on behalf of the Bar, that he wished to thank his Lordship for the things that he had done for justice, both in the law courts and of course, and for having been in the manner of doing those things, so nice. The Bar all wished his Lordship in his retirement the contentment that he had achieved.

Mr Barry Sheen, QC, who spoke on behalf of the Admiralty Bar, said that it had been a great pleasure to appear before his Lordship. More important, his Lordship's judgments had always given the greatest satisfaction to the Bar, to the solicitors in the Admiralty and to the many of them shipowners who came to London to have their disputes justly resolved. His Lordship's

long experience in the maritime field had been of inestimable advantage to the world-wide shipping community.

Lord Justice Cairns, responding to the tributes that he would continue to sit on a part-time basis. His Lordship could only say, as Lord Twinn said of the report of his death, that the report of his retirement had been exaggerated.

Presiding in the Court of Appeal was regarded as a most arduous judicial office, but he had also found it most interesting and enjoyable. Many people had contributed to his enjoyment. He had his brethren in the court. He had received great help from many members of the Bar and from solicitors. The court associates and ushers had performed their tasks admirably. The shorthand writer had been of great help in the accuracy and expedition. His clerk had been a loyal friend and helper through all his time as a judge. The law reports and the High Court journalists had always treated him most fairly and kindly. To all he was grateful.

Five heads of compensation

Tidman v Aveling Marshall Ltd
It is the duty of industrial tribunals when hearing complaints of unfair dismissal to raise themselves the five different categories of compensatory awards, namely, immediate loss of wages, loss of pension rights, loss of loss of protection in respect of unfair dismissal or dismissal by reason of redundancy, and loss of pension rights. Mr Justice Kinnear Brown said in the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

The tribunal allowed an appeal by Mr Robert William Tidman against an award of £237 compensation for unfair dismissal by Lincoln Industrial Tribunal against his employers, Aveling Marshall Ltd.

HIS LORDSHIP said that under paragraph 19 of Schedule 1 to the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, an industrial tribunal had a duty to award compensation in such amount as it considered just and equitable. Beginning with *Norton Tool Co Ltd v Tewson* (1972) 1 CR 501 certain guidelines had been laid down for tribunals to follow and apply. Since then the additional head of loss of pension rights had been added. Questions of pension rights were likely to loom even larger in the future.

There had been no reference at any stage of the present case to loss of pension rights. It was the duty of the industrial tribunal to raise the five heads of award. Once the categories had been investigated it was for the aggrieved party to prove a specific loss.

Russian plot to cripple defence of the West

Every thinking man and woman in Britain and America should take time out to read and consider the implications of the report printed on the opposite page.

The outcome will affect the lives of everyone in these two countries, more importantly the future of their children.

We have obtained the permission of the Editor of the Sunday Telegraph to reproduce this document as it appeared in his newspaper on Sunday Feb. 20th this year.

It reveals:

- 1 The incredibly swift penetration of vast areas and peoples of Southern Africa by the Russians and their mercenaries, the Cubans.
- 2 Precisely how they now control every aspect of life in Angola including forced labour and an intelligence network directly supervised by a KGB general and his staff.
- 3 The training of thousands of troops, assembly of Russian tanks and guns, and takeover of key ports in numerous countries both sides of Africa.
- 4 ABOVE ALL the alarming progress already made in the Soviet plan to deny to the West the vital Cape route which carries 70 per cent of the strategic materials essential to the defence of the NATO countries of which Britain is but one.

Robert Moss, an independent writer, and a team of Sunday Telegraph reporters in Southern Africa, London, and Washington, have uncovered the Kremlin's whole sinister Trojan Horse plot to seize Southern Africa and split the world in two defence-wise: and how Britain and America, even now, are actually aiding this under the cover of "Majority rule".

We challenge the new British Foreign Secretary and the new United States Secretary of State to answer this charge. Moreover we call upon the elected representatives of the British and American peoples to demand action now by their Governments to halt this Soviet threat to the freedom and the way of life of millions.

Make the democratic system work to protect YOUR future and the future of YOUR children. Send these pages to your MP. Insist on a response. Do it NOW.

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REPRODUCED FROM THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH FEBRUARY 20, 1977

Moscow's next target in Africa

CAN the West learn from Angola's tragedy, or are we condemned to relive the experience? What the Russians learned from Angola is that war by proxy pays off. They will be strongly tempted to use the same technique in other places—and almost certainly in the assault on Rhodesia and South-West Africa.

The Cubans are Moscow's all-purpose mercenaries, but they are not the only proxy soldiers who are being deployed in the widening war for southern Africa.

The Nigerians are said to be heavily involved in Angola. Western intelligence sources report that Nigerian troops were present at battalion strength when the MPLA and the Cubans pushed south last year. According to UNITA sources in Paris, the Nigerian strength has since been reinforced.

UNITA sources claim to have tapes of radio intercepts showing that at least 5,000 Nigerian troops have been deployed in Angola. They are operating as far south as Moçimboa, and are also based in Lobito, Luanda and the eastern diamond mining town of Henrique de Carvalho. UNITA claims to have intercepted radio communications in English (the common language between the Nigerians and the Cubans and the MPLA), in the Ibo, Hausa and Yoruba dialects, and in a form of pidgin Creole that could indicate the presence of forces from Sierra Leone as well.

An intriguing sidelight is that UNITA also claims that a British shipping line played a key rôle in ferrying Nigerian troops and military supplies to Angola. Nigeria, rich in oil and boasting an army of some 210,000 men, can clearly afford to be more than rhetorical in backing for the guerrilla movements of southern Africa.

The Tanzanians have also moved into the region. President Nyerere has put 1,400 of his troops into northern Mozambique to help the FRELIMO Government to suppress the major revolt of the Makonde tribes led by Laseo Kavandame. Mozambique's army is largely recruited from the warlike Makonde.

Yet another African army is reported to have sent units south: Somali troops are said to be quietly moving into Mozambique. Rhodesian guerrillas in Maputo have bragged to Portuguese correspondents that Somali tanks will be in future operations against Ian Smith's forces. The story may not be as bizarre as it sounds. Somalia, like Cuba, is a Soviet satellite whose armed forces and intelligence services operate under the direct supervision of Russian officers. Although the Somali army is small (some 25,000 men), it is well-endowed with Soviet armour and has performed well in border skirmishes with the Ethiopians. The Somalis have 200 Soviet-made T-34 tanks and about 50 T-54s.

The black expeditionary forces' task may be to free the Cubans for a future offensive against Rhodesia, South-West Africa—or Zaire, which is also a prime target for the Russians. But the Cubans in Angola still have their hands full in coping with the continuing guerrilla war, and the total number there has probably been increased since the end of the South African campaign; some estimates range as high as 22,000.

There are more than 1,000 Cuban advisers and "technicians" in Mozambique, nominally assigned to the Sema sugar plantations or to the port of Beira. Many are believed to be military instructors for the ZIPA guerrillas from Rhodesia and the FRELIMO forces.

In Somalia, at least 600 Cuban instructors are attached to the Somali army and the pro-Somali guerrillas from Djibouti—the French-controlled port on the Red Sea that is expected to become independent later this year. The Cubans are also active in Equatorial Guinea, where President Macías has established one of the bloodiest dictatorships in black Africa. Some 200 Cuban instructors train his paramilitary forces and his personal bodyguard. There are another 300 Cuban advisers in Sékou Touré's Guinea.

In Sierra Leone, Cubans are training an internal security unit, and Cuban "technicians" have also been sent to the strategically placed former Portuguese possessions in West Africa: Guinea-Bissau, the Cape Verde Islands, and São Tomé e Príncipe.

The Cubans are particularly well-entrenched in Congo-Brazzaville, the main staging-point in their invasion of Angola. They maintain at least 400 men at the Pointe Noire docks and the Maya Maya air base, and there are reports that reinforcements have recently been moved in from Angola in preparation for an attempt to put renewed pressure on Zaire's President Mobutu, whose supply routes to the Atlantic are now endangered. In Tanzania there are at least 150 advisers and "technicians," some of them attached to the Tanzanian People's Defence Force.

All in all, it is not a bad effort for a Caribbean sugar-cane republic of eight million people. Of course, someone else is picking up the tabs. The Russians have not only been subsidising the Cuban economy to the tune of more than \$1 million a day; they invested over \$500 million in the Angolan campaign, and are believed to have supplied weaponry and equipment to Angola worth more than \$350 million in the year since the South Africans pulled out.

But Cuba's rôle as a Soviet proxy is even more striking if you take account of the Cuban presence in the Caribbean (where Castro's men are training Jamaican police) and in the Middle East (where 150 Cuban instructors are training international terrorists in Iraqi camps), not to mention the Cubans' efforts to take control of the



Paying the price for Angola—by ROBERT MOSS

non-aligned countries' news pool and the rôle of the Cuban intelligence service, the DGI, in orchestrating the activities of Latin American exile groups and transnational terrorists in Western Europe. Is it possible to imagine an anti-Communist country of the same size acting on the same scale today?

The strategic effect of the loss of Angola is summed up by two statements that oddly coincide: one from the Soviet paper *Izvestia*, in a major article last August; the other from South Africa's Prime Minister, Mr. Vorster, in his New Year's message. *Izvestia* said that "revolutionary events have seized southern Africa—the last strong bulwark of colonialism and racism—and the speed of the spread of the flames attests to the huge supplies of explosive material accumulating there." Mr. Vorster, in simple but chilling words, showed that the message had not been lost on him: "The storm has not struck yet. We are only experiencing the whirlwind that goes before it."

Were the effects of the Cuban victory foreseen by the men who sat down in the American Senate on December 17, 1975, to debate whether or not they should vote to cut off all United States support to the anti-Soviet movements in Angola? With a few honourable exceptions, it seemed that the Senators were talking about another war. Senator after Senator recalled the anguish of Vietnam, the peril of getting sucked into another quagmire, the hopelessness of trying to shape events in a far-off place of which Americans knew nothing.

Continuing fight against Marxists

Hubert Humphrey caught the prevailing mood: "The United States better start taking care of things it knows how to take care of. We know so little of Africa, the 600 and some tribes that make up Africa... I say it is like a different world."

Senator McGovern jumped up to argue that it made no difference which of the black movements won anyway. Senator Tunney thought the rival Angolan movements were only nominally pro-Soviet or pro-American. At heart, all of them were "basically pro-Angolan, Socialist and highly nationalistic." Most of the Senators who spoke that day found it difficult to believe that the Russians would be able to establish a secure foothold in Angola, and some suggested that Angola could prove to be Russia's Vietnam.

It was not a wholly absurd idea. To this day, three anti-Soviet guerrilla movements are continuing the struggle in Angola: UNITA in the south and centre of the country, the FNLA in the north, and the secessionists of FLEC in the Cabinda enclave. Unlike Left-wing revolutionaries from other countries who fly off to university sinecures or their Swiss bank accounts after suffering defeat on their home ground, Jonas Savimbi is carrying on the battle deep inside Angola.

He has claimed that UNITA has 22,000 armed supporters, although Western intelligence sources believe that the figure is probably no more than 6,000. It is virtually impossible to get reliable information on the guerrillas' military capacities, but one index of UNITA's ability to harass the régime is the fact that no train has been able to cover the whole length of the Benguela railway—from the Zambian border to the coast—since the beginning of the war. UNITA's political base is still largely intact, and the MPLA has had little success in building up support among the Ovimbundu people's traditional UNITA sympathisers.

This means that it might well be possible for UNITA and the other anti-Soviet groups to inflict a serious humiliation on the Cubans and the MPLA if they could count on effective outside support. But no Western Power is disposed to play the part of armourer and

adviser to UNITA in the way that the Russians and the Chinese played it for the Vietcong.

Now that the MPLA régime has been admitted to the United Nations, backing UNITA has become diplomatically tricky—although some Western Governments are more strait-laced than others. The French were ahead of the stampede to recognise the MPLA back in February, 1976 (much to the annoyance of their EEC partners, who had expected to be consulted) but this did not inhibit them from remaining deeply involved with UNITA and the FNLA.

South Africans maintain contacts

Zambia's President Kaunda has come under intense pressure from his "frontline" colleagues to sever all links with UNITA, and finally had to ask Jorge Sangumba, UNITA's chief foreign spokesman, to leave his customary haunt, the Intercontinental Hotel in Lusaka. Jorge now gives his patronage to the Intercontinental Hotel in Kinshasa.

The South Africans maintain contact with the anti-Soviet movements, and there is a large colony of white Angolan refugees. But they are inhibited by their desire not to provide a pretext for a Communist-backed invasion of South-West Africa.

Ironically, if any outside power is ready to adopt a "forward policy" in Angola, it could still prove to be China. The Chinese have backed both the FNLA and UNITA in the past. Many UNITA leaders, including Savimbi's number two, Miguel Ntatu Puna, have received training in China. Puna complained to me when I last saw him about the rigours of the Chinese training schedule (which continued into the night with political indoctrination sessions). The Chinese cut off support to UNITA at the end of 1976, when hard evidence of South Africa's involvement seeped out.

But the Chinese are angry that they have lost nearly every point to the Russians in the contest for power in black Africa—despite the fact that they have spent considerably more in economic aid. So renewed contact with UNITA is a possibility, if a remote one.

With or without outside backing, UNITA's proven survival capacity worries the Russians. The Soviet ambassador in Luanda, Boris Vorobyev, is said to have been instructed to press the MPLA to do a deal with UNITA. President Neto and the Cubans are reluctant, but the biggest stumbling block is that neither Savimbi nor any other of the top-ranking UNITA leaders has been ready to accept the idea of a deal with the MPLA—which, in current circumstances, would amount at best to a conditional surrender. KGB agents have therefore been trying to sound out UNITA representatives abroad to discover whether it is possible to create a rift between Savimbi and lower-level cadres, so far without notable success.

Angola today cannot be objectively described as an independent country. Control of its armed forces, its secret police, its economy, its civil administration and its educational system is in the hands of Russians, Cubans and East Europeans, and the MPLA itself is being remoulded into an orthodox Communist party. The Cuban garrisons are the basic guarantee that the régime will not only survive but toe the line.

The Cubans have divided Angola into six military regions, with garrisons in the major towns. Five major mopping-up operations have been launched against the anti-Communist forces since the South Africans withdrew, but despite the savagery with which the Cubans and the MPLA have dealt with the civil population large swathes of Angola are still contested zones.

The continued flight of refugees over the 1,200-mile border of South-West Africa is an eloquent comment on the way the people of southern Angola

Bush war: Peking-trained major leading victory chants among UNITA troops. The picture comes from UNITA-held territory in southern Angola, the first on-the-spot evidence of the continuing war against the MPLA Government in Luanda. That struggle still goes on over large areas of the country.

regard their new masters. Some 10,000 have been absorbed into South-West Africa.

A conservative intelligence estimate has 3,700 Cuban troops currently in the central-western region, embracing Lobito, Huambo (formerly Nova Lisboa) and Bie (formerly Silva Porto); 2,000 in each of the northern, eastern and southern regions; and 3,000 in the Cabinda enclave, where some of the fiercest fighting is taking place. There are at least 1,500 Cuban troops in Luanda.

This gives a total of about 14,000 of whom 6,000 are infantry. The Cuban forces include an armoured regiment with 120 T-54 and T-34 tanks and 1,900 men, an armoured car regiment with 70 Soviet-made BRDM vehicles and 1,800 men, an anti-aircraft battalion and five regiments equipped with multi-barrelled rocket-launchers.

The Cubans are also the key element in the new Angolan air force. They pilot all of the MPLA's Soviet-supplied planes, which include a dozen MiG-21s, 10 MiG-17s, helicopters, and Antonov-2 light transport planes. They also pilot some of the scores of light aircraft that were bequeathed by the Portuguese forces. Cubans command the air bases throughout Angola, and are supervising the construction of new air bases at Huambo, Moçimboa and Cabo Lindo and the extension of existing air fields. This could be the prelude to a Soviet attempt to use Angola as the base for a major offensive against South-West Africa.

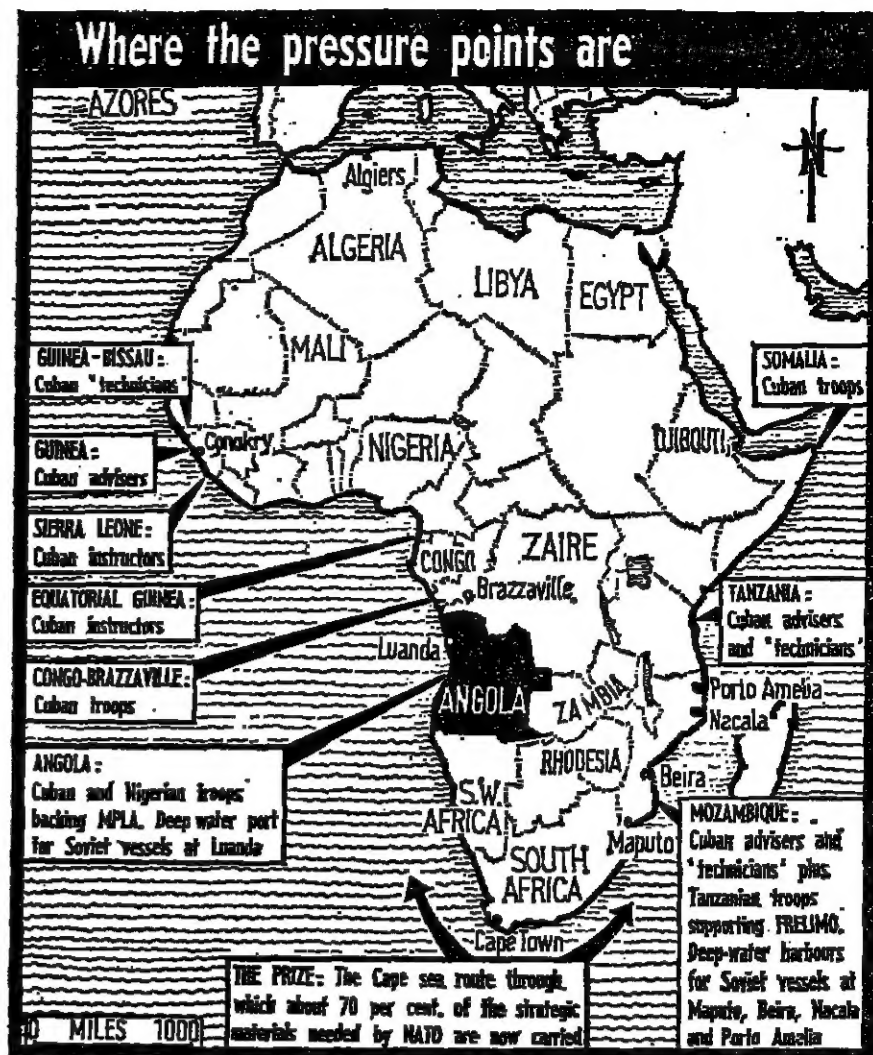
But Cuba's involvement is not restricted to troops. The Cuban ambassador in Luanda is Oscar Oramas, one of the architects of Cuba's invasion, a senior figure in the Cuban Communist party, an old Africa hand (who was formerly ambassador in Conakry) and, most important of all, a key operative of the Cuban intelligence service, or DGI, a satellite of the KGB directly supervised by a KGB general and his Soviet staff. The new Angolan intelligence service, the DISA, is directly controlled by the DGI.

Cubans training union leaders

Similarly, Cuban advisers have assumed key positions throughout the civil service, and notably in the Interior Ministry, the Education Ministry, and in the supervision of the MPLA's programme of "political mobilisation," which is supposed to drum up support for a "new Marxist-Leninist party." The Cubans are training Angolan trade union leaders, and the syllabus on offer at the Lasare Pena trade union college in Marianao includes Marxist philosophy and Cuban history. The Cubans are strongly represented on President Neto's staff, and he is said to have entrusted his personal security to them. They share control of the Finance Ministry and the Bank of Angola with the Russians. The recent measures to establish a new Angolan currency, the kwanza, set an example to any other Government that might wish to wipe out its middle class at a stroke. Angolan families are allowed (on a one-for-one basis) to exchange the old Portuguese Angolan escudos for kwanzas, but only up to the limit of 20,000 kwanzas. Anyone who has more than that stashed away has to accept that his savings have been turned into worthless paper.

Last July, Angola became the first African country to join the Soviet-controlled Council of Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA). Since Neto's visit to Moscow in October, the trickle of East European technicians, agricultural scientists and managers has become a flood.

Between them, the Cubans and the Russians, now decide who can enter and leave Angola, what civil liberties (if any) individuals and organisations will be allowed, what the country will export and import, and how much



money will be printed. On the coffee plantations, Cuban supervisors are said to operate a system of forced labour: workers are shifted from one place to another, or from one job to another, without notice or appeal.

These are examples of what "satellite" means. But foreign troops and advisers can be shown the door.

The Russians remember what happened in Egypt in 1972, when Sadat turned against them, just as the Cubans remember the eviction of their mission from Brazzaville in 1968, before Marien Ngouabi seized power. So an effort is being made in Angola, as in Mozambique, to transform the ruling movement into an orthodox Communist party.

Soviet writers have described in detail how this effort should proceed. The classical text is a book entitled "Political Parties of Africa," published in Moscow in 1970. Its main editor is Vladimir Solodovnikov, now Soviet Ambassador in Lusaka. Solodovnikov accepts that it is unrealistic to expect to create a Communist society in Africa overnight. It will be necessary to begin by working through "revolutionary democratic parties," like the movements that came to power in Guinea, Congo and Tanzania, and like the MPLA in Angola. These movements may start out as a mish-mash of nationalism, Marxism and tribalism, but they include activists "who are inspired by the ideas of scientific Socialism"—in plain words, Communists.

Solodovnikov's thesis is working out in Angola. During his visit to Moscow last October, Agostinho Neto signed a 30-year friendship treaty with Russia that provided for regular exchanges between the MPLA and the Soviet Communist party. Soon after his return, the MPLA announced that Angola was to be described officially as a "Marxist-Leninist republic."

It is perhaps a toss-up whether the MPLA in Angola or FRELIMO in Mozambique has gone further towards achieving Sovietisation. The MPLA does not seem, as yet, to have matched FRELIMO's regulations that dictate the maximum thickness of the soles (and the heels) of shoes, according to the age and sex of the wearer.

Both President Podgorny and Leonid Brezhnev are expected to visit Africa this year. Their main ports of call will be Maputo and (probably) Dar-es-Salaam. The message could be that the West is on the retreat and that Russia is becoming the dominant power in Africa. Their strength is that they are acting according to a global strategy—while Western leaders are not.

The ring of naval and air facilities that the Russians have acquired around the African coast, and the deep-water harbours where they now have the opportunity to create new naval bases, include Luanda and four excellent ports in Mozambique: Maputo, Beira, Nacala and Porto Amélia. Somalia, Congo and all of what used to be Portuguese Africa now have Governments that can be called Marxist, and Soviet-bloc military advisers, troops and intelligence officers are present throughout most of the continent.

But the most important thing to grasp about the Soviet design for southern Africa is that it is essentially negative: it has been accurately described, in an admirable paper from the Institute for the Study of Conflict, as "a strategy of denial"—denial, that is, of raw materials and communications.

Threat to Cape route

A leading Soviet Africanist, E. Tarabin, predicts that the West's dependence on African raw materials will increase rapidly over the rest of the decade, and that imports of chromium (from Rhodesia and South Africa) will double. Soviet experts also stress that much of Africa's mineral wealth lies in the southern half. The gold, diamonds,

platinum, copper and other industrial metals are rich stakes to play for.

Geography is just as important as natural resources. If the Cape route—which carries about 70 per cent. of the strategic materials required by NATO countries—could be denied to the West, the world could be cut in half vertically by the closing of the Suez Canal as well. There is no alternative to the Cape route, not just because the Suez Canal can be closed overnight and Western Europe is so dependent on Middle Eastern oil, but because technology has bypassed the Canal: the supertankers cannot get through it.

The Communist invasion of Angola was a step toward the fulfilment of Russia's grand design: the domination of the whole of southern Africa.

By giving up in Angola, the Western Powers threw away a unique opportunity to hold the line against Soviet expansion in southern Africa. Why unique? Because in Angola, the reality of the Soviet threat was not obscured by racial sentiment—at any rate, not until Marxist propagandists set about trying to turn the South Africans into the villains of the piece.

The war in Angola was not a war of black men versus white men. It was a war between rival black guerrilla movements and their foreign helpers. It presented a clear-cut choice between a pro-Soviet group that promised to turn Angola into a Marxist-Leninist republic and its pro-Western opponents who promised democratic elections and guarantees for private investors.

Learning from Angola, the Russians are determined to ensure that if they can engineer the removal of the white Government in Salisbury, there will not be a subsequent battle for the spoils between pro-Soviet and anti-Soviet blacks, which might again divide black Africa. How can they ensure that? The spade-work has already been done. The bulk of the black guerrilla forces have been united by the Nkomo-Mugabe alliance, under the umbrella of the Patriotic Front.

The five neighbouring African Governments—which were at loggerheads during the Angolan war—have been persuaded to give their support to Nkomo and Mugabe. Britain and America say they will refuse to accept any settlement that is rejected by these two, even though they patently cannot claim to speak for the majority of black Rhodesians and the only hope of a civilised solution in Rhodesia lies in an agreement between Ian Smith and more representative black leaders such as Bishop Muzorewa.

The Soviet calculation—which seems to be paying off so far—is that the assault on southern Africa will be tolerated, if not aided and abetted, by the West, so long as it is carried out in the name of "majority rule." The fact that, for most of black Africa, "majority rule" means one-party dictatorship or primitive despotism is conveniently ignored.

The West's lost chance

But what is still less excusable is the neglect by Western politicians of one of the abiding lessons of Angola: that if "majority rule" means government with the consent of the people, then it can only survive in Africa if it is defended against Communist aggression.

Now Britain and America say that they will not accept a settlement worked out between blacks and whites inside Rhodesia—or, for that matter, South-West Africa. The Marxist guerrilla leaders must be included; it seems that it does not matter over-much to either Western Government if the whites have any say.

If Angola is any guide—and I am convinced that it is—this is a prescription for another Marxist dictatorship, imposed by force of arms, which would provide the base for black guerrillas and Soviet proxy troops to attack the ultimate target: South Africa.

THE END

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FOR THE RECORD/HOME

SAS patrol cleared of main Dublin charge

From Christopher Walker
Dublin

A dangerous threat to Anglo-Irish cooperation against the IRA was removed on March 8 when eight members of the Special Air Service Regiment (SAS) were cleared of possessing firearms with intent to endanger life, an offence carrying a maximum sentence of 20 years.

The three judges in the Special Criminal Court in Dublin took only 15 minutes to reach their verdict.

Although the men were each fined £100 on a lesser charge of possessing weapons without a valid certificate, the verdict was welcomed by British and Irish officials.

Mr Justice McMahon, president of the court, said the prosecution had failed to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the crossing of the border by the men last May was reckless or intentional.

Major Brian Baty, SAS commanding officer at Bessbrook, south Armagh, at the time of the arrests, had told the court that British forces regarded the border as inviolate at all times.

He said that a map-reading error by the soldiers involved was the cause of the mistake.



New WRAC director: Colonel Anne Fields, Deputy Director of the Women's Royal Army Corps, United Kingdom Land Forces (above), is to become Director of the Women's Royal Army Corps in June, as a brigadier, in succession to Brigadier Eileen Nolan, who is to retire.

Tories plan how they will live with unions

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Senior Conservative politicians are working out a philosophy on living with the unions to put before the electorate. Mrs Thatcher, the party leader, believes that a Conservative government could reach an understanding with the TUC on wages.

A new kind of relationship with the labour movement, based on Swedish and West German experience and respecting the unions for the power they wield, is under consideration by the Shadow Cabinet. Although the policy is still in embryo, it seems that Mrs Thatcher is thinking of a general agreement with the unions, and employers, on the scope for annual pay and price rises, but with the Government

firmly in control of the economy. Neither the unions nor employers would have a veto. Essential to such a package would be agreement on the rate of economic growth and the level of wage increases it could generate without causing inflation. There would be a "general guide" on collective bargaining that a Conservative Cabinet would expect both sides of industry to observe in the national interest.

That approach, Mrs Thatcher believes, will not only be a vote winner at the next general election, but might also prove attractive to the unions after three years of the TUC's social contract with Labour, because it restores the unions to their role of representing members rather than participating behind the scenes in government.

Mr Carter for May summit in London on economy

By David Blake
Economics Correspondent

The next Western economic summit will be held in London on May 7 and 8, it was announced from Downing Street on March 8.

The meeting, with Mr Callaghan in the chair, will be attended by the heads of government of Canada, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States. President Carter has confirmed that he will attend, in spite of speculation earlier this year that he might not want to leave Washington so early in his Presidency. The summit will discuss what the Prime Minister recently described as "the deepest recession that the world has seen for 40 years".

In Whitehall, it is believed that coping with the problems facing both developed and developing countries cannot be done by individual nations acting separately and that an international approach is called for. The two previous summit meetings, at Rambouillet in France in 1975 and in Puerto Rico in June, 1976, produced no dramatic new initiatives. However, this time Mr Callaghan is believed to hope that something might be done to cut unemployment, especially among young people.

The meeting is expected to look at the prospects of economic recovery during the rest of the decade, and in particular the possibility that the present flat period in the recovery of Western Europe may degenerate into a fully-fledged recession in 1978.

Hospital grades 'low'

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Hospitals are in danger of losing highly qualified social workers because new appointments are being offered at grades too low to attract the best candidates, the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work said in evidence to the Royal Commission on the Health Service.

The risk to hospitals has been caused by the way local authorities have reacted since hospital social workers were transferred to their employment from the health service. Those already in post were given appropriate grades but new appointments were being advertised at grades too low to attract the right quality of social workers.

Protecting consumers over 'black lists'

By John Groser

Orders and regulations to provide teeth for the Consumer Credit Act, 1974, have been laid before Parliament. They offer improved protection for consumers and pave the way for further reforms.

Mr Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, told a press conference in London on March 8 that he felt that one of the main protections for the consumer was the licensing, by the Office of Fair Trading, of those who operate in the credit industry.

Licensing is taking place in stages, but one of the new orders requires owners and creditors in hire transactions to obtain a licence before October 1. Such licences will cost £45 and will be effective for three years.

Non-corporate traders who never make credit agreements above £30 will not need to apply for a licence for the moment. Licensing of small credit brokers may also be deferred. An important regulation relating to credit-reference agencies will enable the Government to take positive action to protect the interests of consumers placed on credit "black lists" by professional investigating agencies.

From May 16, creditors, owners, or negotiators will be obliged to give a consumer, within seven working days of receiving a written request, the name and address of any credit reference agency that has been consulted.

The agencies will then be required, within 15 working days of a written request and on the payment of a 25p fee, to let any credit broker involved the name and address of a state-ment of their rights of correction.

Further regulations require creditors and owners who have refused to make an agreement regulated by the Act to have their creditworthiness investigated by a credit reference agency that has been consulted so that the broker can pass that information to the consumer.

From November 16 credit reference agencies will be amended to file on consumers' creditworthiness will have to send the revised information to traders to whom they had supplied the earlier information.

FOR THE RECORD/FOREIGN

Survivors stand vigil as Romanian teams clear away the rubble

From Dossa Trevisan
Bucharest, March 9

Numb and exhausted survivors of the earthquake which hit Romania last Friday, killing more than 1,000 people, have been burying their dead as rescue parties comb through the wrecked cities for more survivors.

While the toll keeps rising, each day more survivors have been brought out from the rubble. Families have been standing in front of their ruined houses in the hope that those who are missing would be found alive. In one case, eight people, including a mother nursing her baby, were dug out of the rubble after being trapped for 80 hours.

Another survivor was Miss Marina Stanca, aged 30, the country's Olympic fencing champion. She had been entombed for 84 hours with her father, Professor Octavian Stanca, a gynaecologist.

But Miss Stanca, whose husband was away on a business trip, lost her five-year-old daughter, her mother and her grandmother in the earthquake.

Another casualty was Alexandru Ivascu, the novelist, who was one of the first victims to be buried in a cemetery outside Bucharest which is being prepared to take hundreds of those killed in the earthquake. A prominent poet, Anotole Bacowski, who was among several other intellectuals in a house which collapsed, has not yet been found. Nor has Romania's best-known actor, Toma Caragiu.

The tragedy could not have come at a worse time of the day. For restaurants crowded out the country were closed with evening diners and in many homes families sat watching television.

It is estimated that 20,000 buildings have been destroyed or damaged in Bucharest alone, and that the number of injured for the whole country has risen to more than 6,000. The tremor left scars in many cities from Cluj to Iasi, a major oil and industrial city, to Galati, pride of Romania's post-war industrial achievements. Industrial damage is vast. Romania's largest heavy engineering works, the 23 August plant near Iasi, has been badly damaged as well as other government buildings, including the nuclear research centre, and nine hospitals.

It is clear that the Romanian economy will be set back by several years, and that it will take months before many of its factories can function normally. International loans will have to be sought to rebuild the factories and cities.

Schools and the university, which were closed at first, have now reopened and the Government, in an attempt to get life back to normal quickly, has ordered a return to work wherever possible.

This is the third major earthquake to strike Romania. The first was in 1902 and the second in 1940.



An injured man is brought out of the ruins.

ing the nuclear research centre, and nine hospitals.

But it was remarkable how quickly Bucharest organized medical services for the injured. A university clinic I visited had received 140 seriously injured patients, but there was no sign of panic. Doctors were on duty 24 hours a day and field hospitals had been set up.

A doctor described the earthquake as "worse than a bombardment" and diplomats and numerous foreign tourists said they had never before crumpled. The tremor lasted more than a minute.

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Saudi Arabia surprises African leaders with a promise of \$1,000m in aid

From Robert Fisk
Cairo, March 9

Saudi Arabia has told the Afro-Arab meeting here that it will give \$1,000m (£500m) for the development of African countries.

African foreign ministers had appealed for \$2,000m from Arab countries in return for further political support in the Middle East. They pointed out that their economies were being strangled by high oil prices. The Arabs said they could not afford such a sum.

After President Sadat of Egypt offered to contribute only \$1m in cash and other aid, the Africans were not expecting any sign of generosity from the Arab heads of state.

But Prince Saud al-Faisal, standing at the rostrum of the main hall in the Arab Socialist Union headquarters in Cairo, announced the aid in an off-the-cuff manner that stunned the African heads of state.

Then, as the Prince explained the details, the delegates cheered and clapped almost continuously.

The conference—the first of its kind ever held with 60 Arab and African kings, princes and heads of state in attendance—has been more a symbol of political aspirations than of positive future action.

President Sadat spoke of Arab support for the African struggle against the governments of South Africa and Rhodesia. Mr Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, referred to "the unholy alliance between Pretoria, Salisbury and Tel Aviv". President Amin of Uganda attacked Britain and the United States for their policies in Africa.

And at a press conference in the city, the Ugandan leader repeated his intention to come to London for the Commonwealth conference in June—whatever the attitude of the British Government. He said he would bring 250 officials with him to help "point out the weaknesses of Britain".

He declared that the British had "no authority" to prevent his visit to London. "Whether they like it or not, I will go," he said, hammering his fist on the table in front of him.

The Cairo summit also provided the occasion for a meeting between King Husain of Jordan and Mr Arafat. They had lunch together—their first private meeting since the Palestinian guerrillas were driven out of Jordan in 1970—and it is believed they agreed to a formal constitutional link between the Palestinians and Jordan.

It is understood this tie-up will be made before there is any resumption of the Middle East peace conference in Geneva. No further details of the meeting were disclosed.

Sentences on two men are suspended

Two of the defendants in a South Wales corruption trial appeared at Cardiff Crown Court again on March 7 to have their sentences suspended for two years.

Mr Justice Watkins said that on reflection over the past 10 days he had decided to take that course. David Walter Parker, aged 38, of Pant yr Athro, Llangain, Dyfed, had acted commendably in admitting his guilt and assisting the police.

What Richard David Tobias, aged 28, of Rodmell Slope, Flinckley, London, had done was to cover up misdeeds perpetrated by others of stronger will and greater age. Mr Parker had been sentenced to nine months' imprisonment and Mr Tobias to 15 months.

BBC upheld over dismissal

Senhor Antonio Cartaxo, a Portuguese journalist who maintained that he was unfairly dismissed by the BBC in 1975, had his application rejected by an industrial tribunal in London and March 8.

The decision follows a similar one last month in the case of Senhor Jorge Ribeiro, also a programme assistant in the BBC's external services.

Second 'Angry' girl paroled

Hilary Creek, aged 28, one of the "Angry Brigade" members who was sentenced in December, 1975, to 10 years' imprisonment for conspiracy to cause explosions, is to leave Holloway prison on parole next month. She will attend a course at Swansea University.

Anna Mendleson, another member of the brigade, who was sentenced at the same time, was released on parole last November.

Denying that it took "re-education" against people who disagreed with it, as Mr Williamson maintained, the council said: "There can be no other body that more regularly succours those who persist in biting the hand that feeds them."

MP accused of shoplifting

William Ferguson Mountgomerie, aged 49, Conservative MP for Altrincham and Sale, was remanded on bail of £50 at Macclesfield Magistrates' Court, Westminster, accused of shoplifting on March 8. He is to contest the charge, of stealing two books, valued £8.90, from the Army and Navy Stores.

Welsh protest stopped TV

Independent television services throughout north-west England and North Wales were out of action for 15 to 20 seconds on March 4 after four Welsh people had interfered with transmission equipment at Winter Hill, Horwich, Inspector Barrie Walsley told magistrates at Leyland, Lancashire.

Theresa Pierce, aged 19, of Fynewydd, Caernarfon, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment; Sion Aled Owen, aged 20, of Neredd Pantycelyn Students' Hall, Aberystwyth; and Angwyl Wyn Thomas, aged 18, of Bron Wylfa, Llanwnda, Caernarfon, were each given a six-month sentence suspended for two years. Alan Glenn Phillips, aged 21, of Trinity Place, Aberystwyth, was fined £50.

Safer crossing gates urged

A report on an accident at a level crossing at Kilmick, near Hull, last June, in which a train struck a car, killing the driver, recommends modifications to similar crossings as soon as possible.

The report, by Mr A. G. Townsend-Rose, for the Department of Transport, says the Kilmick crossing is one where the gates are not connected to signals. That means that when the keeper activates a signal, telling an approaching train to stop, or that the line is clear, the gates are not automatically opened or closed.

Bail for ex-soldier

John Berry, aged 33, the former soldier activated under the Official Secrets Act with passing classified information to two journalists, was released on bail by Mr Justice Gibson on March 8.

Jubilee art show

"London and the Thames" — a silver Jubilee exhibition of paintings, will open to the public in July at the Fine Rooms at Somerset House.

Policeman hit prisoner

Sergeant Daniel Hewitson of Hampshire police deliberately hit a prisoner in the face after being sorely provoked, Mr Justice Boreham said in the High Court on March 9. It was a momentary lapse by the officer.

He awarded Mr David O'Connor, aged 26, of Rix Close Road, Alton, Hampshire, £125 damages for the "completed but slight hurt". Police Constable Jeremy Maynard, aged 25, is facing disciplinary proceedings because of an official complaint he made about Sergeant Hewitson.

MP criticized in court

The intervention by Mr Dennis Walters, Conservative MP for Westbury, in a speeding prosecution was criticized in court at Salisbury when Mr Anthony Bennett, of Chilmark, was fined £19, with costs of £19.62. Inspector William Houghton said Mr Walters had suggested that the case should be settled before it reached court.

Churchill paintings

Five paintings sent for sale at Christie's on March 4 by Lady Spencer-Churchill, Sir Winston's widow, made £86,300, four times what had been expected.

Council mortgage cut

Londoners will find it difficult in the next year to obtain local authority home loans because the Government has cut the allocation for council mortgages in London boroughs from £46m to £15m.

£400m foreign aid

Britain's net expenditure on foreign aid in 1975 was £395m. Of some additional grants outside the aid programme are counted the total net aid to underdeveloped countries exceeded £400m for the first time.

Supply of goods

A Law Commission working paper makes proposals designed to introduce consistency into the law on the obligations of a supplier of goods, whatever kind of contract—sale, hire, or hire-purchase—is involved.

Saving petrol

A report published by the Department of Energy recommends that all new cars should be fitted with radial tyres, that consumer petrol should be withdrawn from sale and that motorists should be encouraged to drive more carefully to save fuel.

Vanbrugh Castle sold

Vanbrugh Castle, at Blackheath, south London, until recently the home of the RAF Benevolent Fund preparatory school, has been bought by the Blackheath Preservation Trust for almost £200,000.

Tote compensation

Mr Woodrow Wyatt, chairman of the Horserace Totalisator (Tote) Board, has offered compensation to the off-course bookmakers whom the Tote, according to its evidence to the Royal Commission on Gambling, wants to take over.

Classics option

A report published by the Department of Education and Science shows that there is only one chance in two of classics being offered in a local comprehensive school, though there are wide variations between regions.

Dearer bread

Shopkeepers have been allowed by the Government to charge 1p more for a large loaf.

Unit faces closure

Britain's only disaster research unit, at Bedford University, may close because of economic cuts.

Day by day

Thursday, March 3

Human rights: President Carter's defence of Soviet dissidents brings an angry response from the Moscow press. Mr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, says Britain will not discriminate on the issue. "We will apply the same standards and judgments to communist countries as we do to Chile, Uganda and South Africa."

US Congress: The House of Representatives imposes a new code of ethics upon itself. Representatives will in future have to disclose their wealth and how much they will not be allowed to earn more than an extra 15 per cent of their salaries from lectures or accept gifts of more than \$100 (about £58) from lobbyists. They were given a pay raise of \$13,000 bringing their salaries up to \$57,500.

Friday, March 4

Uganda: The Anglican Bishop of Kampala, the Right Rev Brian Herd, is expelled. Rhodesia: The Land Tenure Amendment Bill is given exactly the required two thirds majority in Parliament. Mr Smith's Government is saved from defeat by three black independent MPs.

Saturday, March 5

President Carter: The first "phone in" is broadcast live from the White House; 42 people put questions to the President. More martyrs: Six Ugandan actors rehearsing a play about St Charles Lwanga, burnt to death in 1885, are murdered. Their burnt bodies are found 24 miles from Kampala.

Sunday, March 6

Mr Rabin: The Israeli Prime Minister arrives in Washington on a six-day official visit. Peking press: Mr Hu Chi-weh is appointed editor of the People's Daily and Mr Chang Kuo-cheng head of broadcasting. The moves come after the similar replacement of leftist propagandists by moderates in the newspaper Red Flag and the New China news agency.

New Zealand: Sir Keith Holy-



oake, former Prime Minister, is appointed Governor-General in succession to Sir Denis Blundell who retires on September 27.

Monday, March 7

Concorde: The New York Port Authority postpones indefinitely its decision on landing rights for the supersonic airliner. The vote was due on March 10. Angry protests from France and Britain were expected if the ban were to be made complete.

Human rights: In Geneva the American delegate withdraws his request for a vote in the United Nations Commission on Human Rights on sending a telegram to Moscow asking for information on dissidents. Earlier the Soviet delegate had told the Americans: "This is not your business."

The Queen: The royal tour moves on to Australia where Mr Whitlam, the Labour opposition leader, on presentation to the Queen, ignores Sir John Kerr, the Governor-General, who dismissed his Government on November 11, 1975.

Rhodesia: Mr Roger Hawkins, aged 62, is appointed Minister of Combined Operations. He was previously Minister of Transport.

New envoy: West Germany

appoints Dr Hans Helmuth Kruer as its new Ambassador.

University closes for the second time in a month after riots by students in protest over unemployment among graduates.

Seares talks: Senhor Mario Soares, the Portuguese Prime Minister, discusses Portugal's entry into the European Community with President Giscard d'Estaing.

BBC in Peking: Mr Philip Short, until recently in Moscow, goes to China in the spring as the corporation's first resident correspondent since the foundation of the People's Republic in 1949.

Tuesday, March 8

European Parliament: Signor Emilio Colombo, former Christian Democrat Prime Minister of Italy, is elected president of the European Parliament by 85 votes to 77. Two previous ballots failed to produce a clear winner. In the final ballot, Signor Colombo defeats Mr Michael Yeates, who represents the Irish Flannia Fail Party and is the son of the poet, William Butler Yeates.

Dealer indicted: Mr Frank Lloyd, the head of the Marlborough Art Galleries in London, New York and elsewhere, is indicted in New York on a charge of tampering with some of the evidence used in an eight-month-long court case involving the paintings of Mark Rothko, the American expressionist painter. Mr Lloyd's whereabouts are not known and Interpol has been informed.

Wednesday, March 9

Belgian crisis: Mr Leo Tindemans, the Prime Minister,

Opposition cries foul after Bhutto poll sweep

From Hasan Akhtar
Rawalpindi, March 9

Mr Bhutto's ruling Pakistan People's Party swept Monday's general election, gaining 155 of the 200 seats at stake and bringing immediate allegations by the opposition Pakistan National Alliance that the polls were rigged.

The Prime Minister described the result as a genuine landslide win. Air Marshal Asghar Khan, leader of the nine-party Alliance, called it "a complete farce". The former Air Force chief said the Government had massively rigged the elections, particularly manipulating the women's vote, which is nearly 40 per cent of the 30 million electorate. He demanded that the head of the Election Commission resign "an honourable man" for having failed to conduct honest and fair elections.

Mr Bhutto denied the allegations and said the National Alliance lost because of its obscurantism and threat to shave women's heads if they failed to follow Islamic injunctions. Pakistan's women, he said, were not prepared to be sent back to bondage.

He said as soon as he was able to form his new government he would consider lifting the state of emergency gradually. It would, however, depend on the opposition. If it adopted "agitational policies" it might not be possible to lift the emergency soon.

Although Mr Bhutto insisted that the defeat of the opposition was exactly according to its original expectations the results in fact surpassed the pre-election calculations of the most optimistic of his followers. They have shocked opposition supporters, who predicted, if not victory, at least close second to the ruling party.

In the Punjab, where until the eve of the election popular expectations were that the Alliance would have the edge over the People's Party, the opposition in fact won only eight of the 115 seats contested. No opposition candidate was returned from Lahore. The Alliance's main gains were in North-West Frontier Province, where Begum Nasim Wali Khan, wife of the leader of the outlawed National Awami Party, stood as an opposition candidate and helped it regain lost ground. The Alliance took 17 seats there to the ruling party's eight.

The Alliance did not contest Baluchistan in protest at the heavy deployment of troops there. The final results were Pakistan People's Party, 155; Pakistan National Alliance, 36; Muslim League, one, Independent, ten women MPs and six MPs representing minority communities will be elected by national and provincial assemblies later to bring the National Assembly up to its full strength of 216.

All 14 members of Mr Bhutto's Cabinet were returned, but among prominent losers for People's Party were Mr Mian Parooz Ali, the Speaker, and Mr Nasrullah Khan, Chief Minister of North-West Frontier Province. On the opposition's leading figures Air Marshal Asghar Khan, Maulana Mufi Mahmud and Begum Nasim Wali Khan, all won. Begum Wali Khan is the daughter-in-law of Khan Abdul Ghafoor Khan, the Father leader, described by The Times as a "Prisoner of Conscience".

The political crisis began when Mr Tindemans, a Dutch-speaking Socialist Christian, expelled the small far-right speaking federalist Rassemblement Wallon from his coalition.

Carter conference: President Carter says he will not intervene over the granting of permission for Concord to land at Kennedy airport, New York.

He also tells a broadcast press conference that he envisages defence lines for Israel outside its own boundaries and independent of "secure borders" to be negotiated with the Arabs.

Journalist expelled: Mr Ian Jack, of The Sunday Times, is ordered to leave India as the result of an article he wrote as part of his coverage of the general election.

Spying charge: A former spokesman for West Berlin's ruling Social Democratic Party and his former wife are charged with spying for East Germany for eight years.

Chile resignations: Ministers resigned en bloc to give President Pinochet a free hand in forming a new government.

Professor deported: Professor Wolfgang Thomas claims he was deported from South Africa because of his sympathy for Namibian (South-West African) nationalists. He was director of the University of the Western Cape's Institute of Social Development.

60 killed in Lebanon clash

Beirut, March 9.—Sixty people have been killed and 90 wounded in clashes between rival Palestinian groups in the southern Lebanese market town of Nabatiyah.

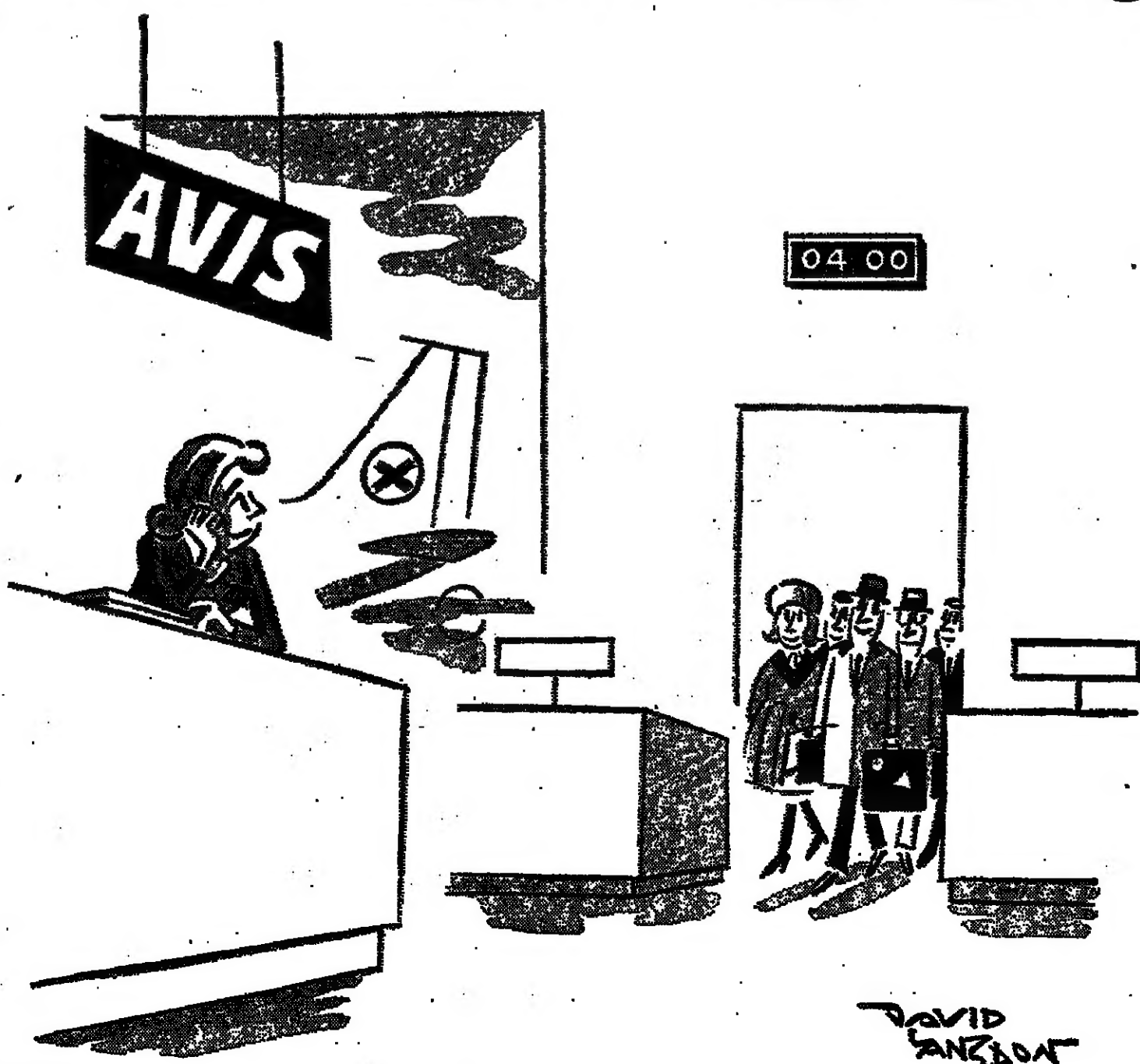
Fifteen of the dead were members of the Palestinian Rejection Front, which groups pro-Israeli and other left-wing elements of the Palestinian movement. The 45 others included civilians, pro-Syrian Sa'ia commandos, and members of other guerrilla groups. Although all reported calm,

the region along the border with Israel, south of Nabatiyah, remained dangerous, sources said.

They said three members of the conservative Lebanese forces confronting Palestinian commandos were killed when shells fell on the village Awwar. Sa'ia commandos, joined by other groups, intervened to halt the fighting. Sa'ia was said to be in control of Nabatiyah, which is a key centre for the guerrillas in southern Lebanon.—Reuter.

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DAVID
LANZONI

WEST EUROPE

Mr Jenkins tells Europe MPs he should be invited to put EEC case at the London summit

From Philip Webster
Strasbourg, March 10

Mr Roy Jenkins, the president of the European Commission, today stated his position in the growing dispute over representation of the Commission at the Western economic summit conference in London in May.

He told the European Parliament in Strasbourg he felt he should be invited to the summit to represent the Community, together with the president in office of the Council.

He said: "The view of the Commission is that the Community as such should be present at the economic summit

and that it should be there represented by the president in office of the Council and the president of the Commission.

"This view is fortified by the fact that any likely agenda will cover matters with a clear Community competence, such as the North-South dialogue, multilateral trade negotiations and energy, as well as general economic and monetary perspectives.

"The Commission would wish to see that, in seeking solutions to these problems, the needs and views of the Community as a whole are taken fully into account."

At a press conference here later, MPs from Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Ireland and Denmark undertook to take up the question of Community representation at the summit in their own Parliaments and to bring pressure on their own governments.

Mr Scheffels Padjo, a Dutch Socialist, said that the matter should be taken up at the meeting of the European Council in Rome later this month. If it was not put on to the agenda for that meeting, the five smaller EEC countries should consider boycotting it.

Parliamentary report, page 10

£6m Nice bank raid suspect flees from court

Nice, March 10.—Albert Spaggiari, the alleged mastermind of the 50m franc (£6m) sewer robbery in Nice, made a dramatic escape from the law courts here today and disappeared on the pillow of a waiting motorcycle.

Mr Spaggiari was taken to the law courts today for questioning. Police said he leapt through a window in the magistrate's office, shattering the pane. He landed apparently unhurt on the roof of a car, scrambled off and drove off on the pillow of a waiting motorcycle.

He made an obscene gesture to the policeman guarding the door before roaring away.

Dr Soares names date for Portugal's application

From Our Own Correspondent
Strasbourg, March 10

Portugal intends to lodge a formal application for membership of the EEC at the end of the month, Dr Soares, the Portuguese Prime Minister, disclosed here yesterday.

In talks with Socialist members of the European Parliament, Dr Soares said he hoped the European Commission would be able to give its opinion on the Portuguese application, as required under the Treaty of Rome, by the end of the year.

If that timetable were kept, he saw no reason why the Council of Ministers should not

be ready by the spring of next year to take a decision to open entry negotiations.

Because of its considerable economic problems, Portugal would need a longer transitional phase of membership than the five years allowed Britain, Ireland and Denmark, Dr Soares said. But he thought Portugal would be in a position to accept the full obligations of membership in about 10 years' time.

Dr Soares is on the second leg of a tour of European capitals and is due to visit Brussels for talks with Mr Jenkins, the president of the Commission, and other senior officials at the end of the week.

Wage claim of Globtik Venus crew settled

By Peter Hill

The bizarre affair of the Globtik Venus, the tanker which brought the London-based shipping company, Globtik Tankers, into confrontation with the maritime unions has ended.

After long talks between union leaders and officials of the company headed by Mr Ravi Tikloo, the shipping tycoon, a settlement has been reached in the dispute over the wages of the former Filipino crew of the ship.

A two-week-old strike by the Filipino crew on board the ship at the French port of Le Havre ended abruptly last week, when a party of hired maritime mercenaries stormed the ship.

The International Transport Workers' Federation had been demanding \$242,000 (£150,000) in back pay for the dismissed crew. Last night both union leaders and the company refused to give details of the settlement, but it is believed that the company will provide lump-sum payments close to the original union claim.

Amounts paid will vary according to their rank, length of service and overtime. In return the unions have undertaken to "give all possible assistance" to the company in the operation of its fleet.

A National Union of Seamen crew will shortly leave for Le Havre to replace the non-union crew which has been on board the Globtik Venus since last weekend.

Mr Charles Blyth, the general-secretary of the International Transport Workers' Federation, said that in the negotiations no one got everything they wanted but a satisfactory settlement had been agreed.

Mr Tikloo's action in engaging men to storm the Globtik Venus has been deplored by Government ministers and the Director of Public Prosecutions has been asked by Mr Sam Silkin, the Attorney General, to investigate whether there are grounds for legal action.

EEC and Russia adjourn fisheries talks

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, March 10

Fisheries negotiations between the EEC and the Soviet Union, which were hailed as a diplomatic breakthrough when they began last month, were today adjourned until April 19 after it became clear that the two sides were too far apart for there to be any hope of early agreement.

Officials close to the discussions said the adjournment was designed to provide time for the negotiating partners "to reflect on their problems". The tactics to be adopted when the negotiations resume may be discussed by EEC foreign ministers when they meet in Brussels on April 5.

As it is no longer possible to reach agreement by April 1, the EEC will probably decide to extend the present interim arrangements, whereby 40 named Soviet vessels are allowed to catch limited quantities of specified species of fish in well-defined zones lying within the Community's new 200-mile limits.

Rubber bullets fired in Basque protest

San Sebastian, March 10.—Riot police fired rubber bullets today at Basque nationalist demonstrators on the eve of a Cabinet meeting that will broaden an amnesty for political prisoners.

The demonstrators were protesting here against the death of two people, alleged to be members of the Basque nationalist group ETA, who were shot by police two days ago at a roadblock near this northern summer resort.

Several hundred teenagers threw up make-shift barricades of cars and benches and stoned the police, who fired tear gas and bombs that belched green and red smoke.

Police charged several times and ordered people off balconies after being showered with bricks.—Reuters.

The Pope is recovering

Rome, March 10.—The Pope is expected to resume his audience on Saturday, as he is recovering from influenza which caused the cancellation of his general audience on Wednesday.

The Vatican said he was well enough today to receive his closest advisers and follow the normal activities of church government. The Pope will be 80 in September.

Java floods

Jakarta, March 10.—Heavy flooding in West Java has left several thousand people homeless and is threatening to destroy a vital highway linking the Indonesian capital with the seaport of Cirebon.

£250,000 tax swindle

Singapore, March 10.—A 24-year-old woman income tax evader, who had been charged with high living was jailed for six years here for swindling the taxation department of almost 1m Singapore dollars (£250,000).

OVERSEAS



Five hostages, one of them wounded, leave the B'nai B'rith buildings in Washington after being freed by the terrorists.

Police seek man who threatens to kill the Queen in bomb attack

Brisbane, March 10.—The police were searching tonight for a man with a foreign accent who had threatened to kill the Queen in a bomb attack at a sports complex hours before she named it officially.

The man was also believed to be responsible for several other threats against the Queen since her arrival here yesterday. The police said they were taking them seriously.

The police received a telephone call yesterday saying that a sniper would shoot her from the roof of a department store when she arrived at the city hall. Other calls said that bombs had been placed in Government House.

The royal couple braved heavy rain in an open car today as they took a tour of the city with schoolchildren and parents at the sports complex after a search had revealed that there was no danger.

Some 25,000 young people

cheered when the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh left their closed car for an open one to drive round the running track.

The Queen named the centre the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Centre and said that she was delighted that it would be the site of the 1982 Commonwealth Games.

In the morning the Duke addressed a meeting of mayors and town clerks on the problems facing modern cities.

He said that three factors seemed to be responsible for the difficulties facing big cities. They were the migration from country to town, modern transport and especially the "transport explosion" brought about by the "personal motor car", and the tendency for so many occupations to become industrialized.

"Small businesses of all kinds, shops, workshops, butchers, bakers, have all been

displaced by factories, supermarkets and department stores", he said.

Mr Ronald Allison, the Queen's press secretary, said today that, so far as he knew, the Queen had found no offence in a controversial speech by Mr Gough Whitlam, the leader of the Australian Labour opposition.

Some press reports had suggested that the Queen had said "stony-faced" through the speech on Tuesday night at Parliament House in Canberra and was affronted by it.

Mr Whitlam had said that some of the Queen's subjects wanted her to be Queen of Scots. Elizabeth, Queen of Scots, though not as bad as Queen of Queensland. And last week it was proposed that you be Queen of the Solomon Islands. What next? Queen of Sheba? —Reuters.

Zaire cities 'occupied' by Angolans

Kinshasa, March 10.—Three important mining and communication centres of southern Zaire are occupied by Angolan troops, the state radio—Voice of Zaire—announced today.

Few details were given about the extent of the fighting or of casualties. Zaire troops were stationed in the three border cities which the radio said "armed mercenary groups" had seized three days ago. It said at first that the origin of the invading forces was not exactly known, but later said they came from Angola.

The official Zaire news agency said that the general staff of the Zaire armed forces had met to "guarantee territorial integrity and sovereignty in face of the intolerable situation created by the mercenary invasion of Zaire's soil". But it added that President Mobutu, who is visiting the interior with Mr Josep Strausz, the West German Opposition leader, had decided not to make any statement for the time being.

In the past few weeks, Angola has repeatedly accused Zaire of backing European mercenaries who, it said, had infiltrated its territory and carried out acts of sabotage and massacres.

The Zaire Government has decided to inform the United Nations Secretary-General of this "act of aggression committed against Zaire by mercenaries coming from Angola". The agency said.—AP.

Oshikango, Angola, March 10.—Angolan and South African authorities have agreed to meet at this remote border crossing next Tuesday to consider a possible exchange of letters from prisoners of the two sides.

The agreement was made at a meeting here two days ago when, flanked by armed guards, officers from the ideologically opposed countries discussed the possibility of a letter swap

Mrs Trudeau denies romance rumour

New York, March 10.—Mrs Margaret Trudeau, wife of Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, went to the ballroom last night and denied rumours of a romance with Mick Jagger, the Rolling Stones singer.

Asked by a reporter whether she was having an affair with Mr Jagger, Mrs Trudeau appeared startled and replied: "Heaven, no." Mr Jagger, who is also in New York, issued a statement last night in which he also dismissed the rumours of an affair.

In Ottawa, the Prime Minister's office said that "unfounded personal circumstances" had caused Mrs Trudeau to cancel a planned visit to Enfield, Nova Scotia.—Reuters and AP.

Mrs Marcos flies to Libya in new peace initiative

Manila, March 10.—President Marcos said today he would go to great lengths to reach a peaceful settlement with the Muslim rebels of the Philippines, and voiced his fears that a bloodier war might erupt if negotiations failed.

The President was interviewed on television by newspaper editors here after the breakdown of the Libyan-sponsored peace talks in Tripoli with the rebel Moro National Liberation Front.

The President said he had sent his wife, Imelda, on a new mission to Tripoli today for talks with Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, "to see what can be done about reviving the talks."

"We must keep on negotiating because the alternative is too awful even to consider", he said. The alternative "is a messy type of war. There will be casualties on both sides, but worst, the civilians will be the principal casualties."

The President voiced his concern about alleged ceasefire violations by the rebels but said the ending of the seven-week-old ceasefire could lead to a worse situation.

He rejected, however, the suggestion of bringing the problem to the United Nations, saying that it was an internal Philippine affair.

Official estimates put at 20,000 the number of people killed in the four-year-old revolt for Muslim self-rule. The talks bogged down on the composition of a proposed Muslim autonomous region and on the degree of autonomy to be enjoyed by the region.

In the interview, the President indicated that he was standing firm on his decision to call a plebiscite in the south to find out which of the 13 provinces proposed for inclusion in the autonomous region really wanted to join it. The Moro rebels oppose such a plebiscite, but according to Mr Marcos, "there is no alternative."—Agence France Presse.

Tibetans arrested

Delhi, March 10.—About 200 Tibetan refugees were arrested here today when they tried to force their way into the Chinese embassy, police said. About 40 policemen were injured.

Guerrilla ambush

Bangkok, March 10.—Communist guerrillas ambushed a vehicle in the Thani province, southern Thailand, killing four policemen and a civilian. Government officials said today.

Dr Owen not allowed to upstage Premier

Continued from page 1

he was looking forward to sharing the "excitement" of Mr Carter's new Administration. Indeed, "getting acquainted" is one of the most important reasons for the meeting.

The same is true even more acutely for Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, who is the new boy here. The Washington Post today hardly noticed Mr Callaghan's arrival last night (The New York Times carried nothing) but the Post carried prominently an article based on long excerpts of Dr Owen's maiden foreign affairs speech.

Mr Callaghan is lunching on Capitol Hill, and today will meet such members of the Cabinet as Mr Michael Blumenthal, the Treasury Secretary, Dr Zbigniew Brzezinski, the President's national security adviser, and Mr Donald Brown, Secretary of Defence. There will be two banquets and Mr Callaghan will speak at a National Press Club luncheon which is to be broadcast live over many public radio stations.

Mr Callaghan also said, and sounded as if he meant it, that

today, is most concerned with concerting Western economic recovery, which means seeing that the United States, Germany and Japan restimulate their economies". The Prime Minister noted that the world recession was now four years last night. "Of course, the Free World can and will emerge from this recession but we need concerted intergovernmental action if we are to do so as speedily as possible", he said.

Speaking as President of the European Council of Ministers, Mr Callaghan declared that all members wanted a strengthening of relationships with the United States.

So does Mr Carter, but in matters of economic stimulus he believes that the Government spending he has already proposed for the next two years is not to be reinitiated.

Mr Callaghan also said, and sounded as if he meant it, that

Jewish activist charged in Soviet Union

Moscow, March 10.—A Jewish activist who was prevented from meeting an American diplomat outside the United States Embassy in Moscow last week, has been arrested and charged with "parasitism", Jewish sources said today.

The sources said that Mr Isosif Begun, a mathematician, had been detained last Thursday, four days after he and Professor Veniamin Fair, another activist, had tried to hand over documents on the Jewish movement to Mr Larry Napper, a Third Secretary at the United States Embassy.

The police later told Mr Begun's fiancée, Miss Alla Brugova, that he would be charged under an article of the Soviet legal code, designed to keep Jews and vagrants out of the larger cities.

"Parasitism", which carries a maximum sentence of two years, has been used against dissidents and Jewish activists

who have lost their jobs.

Mr Begun applied for permission to emigrate to Israel in 1971 and has not been able to work as a mathematician since the following year, although he has had manual jobs.

Writing in the newspaper *Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya*, Mr G. Dadyants, a commentator, said that attacks on the treatment of dissidents in Russia were designed to poison the atmosphere before the Helsinki review conference in June and to discredit communism in Western countries.

"It is not surprising that bourgeois propaganda, striving to distract the attention of the broad masses from the grave effects of the crisis in the West, tries to divert the public's gaze to Sakharov or Bukovsky."

"It is unfortunate that some of the leftists in the West have swallowed the anti-Soviet bait from the bourgeoisie, in an attempt to prove their respect

for capitalism."

Western criticism of Soviet policies was open interference in the Soviet Union's internal affairs and violated the 1975 Helsinki accords.—Reuters.

Prague, March 10.—Vaclav Havel, the dissident Czechoslovak playwright, was accused of receiving money from American and West German intelligence agencies in articles appearing in the Prague press today.

Mr Havel, one of the three spokesmen for the Charter 77 human rights protest group, has been held in Ruzyně prison on the outskirts of Prague since January with two other prominent signatories of Charter 77, Mr Jiri Lederer, a former journalist, and Mr Frantisek Pavlicek, a former director.

Mr Havel was also accused of being in contact with Mr Pavel Tigrid, identified in the articles as a known agent of the American Central Intelligence

Agency, and other Czechoslovak émigrés "working for the most part with Western espionage services."

Mr Tigrid, a leading critic and publisher, left Czechoslovakia after the communist takeover in 1948.

The press articles were the first direct accusations against Mr Havel since his arrest although spokesmen has on several occasions told Western journalists that he was arrested for espionage and that the Charter 77 protest was not involved. His family has not been told the charges against him.

The articles cited among others Mr Tomas Rezac, a former émigré who returned to Czechoslovakia. He was quoted as saying that he had been told by a West German intelligence agent in 1971 that "Czechoslovakia's alleged culture will be sustained through third persons and institutions."—Agence France Presse.

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	GF008	1000	1920		2225		0010
WED	GF018	2045				0735	0925
	GF012	1000	1930		2225		
THURS	GF018	2045				0735	0925
	GF018	1000	1920				2255
FRI	GF128	2045			0840		0825
	GF006	1000	1930		2225		0010
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مكازم السفر

OVERSEAS

UN bans 'looting' from its Cyprus vocabulary after Turkish assurance on seizure of property

From Robert Fisk, Nicosia

United Nations troops in Cyprus have been ordered to stop using the word "looting" when reporting the seizure of private property by Turkish and Greek authorities in the island.

The official instruction, contained in confidential United Nations documents, which have come into the hands of *The Times*, has caused considerable disquiet among United Nations soldiers on peacekeeping duties near the Turkish-held port of Famagusta.

The deputy commanding officer of the Austrian civilian police unit in the south of the island—where Turkish troops have for more than a year been observed taking thousands of pounds worth of Greek-Cypriot property from houses in looted—questioned the order at a high-level military meeting, only to be told that the instruction had been made by General James Quinn, the Irish commander of the United Nations force in Cyprus.

The ban, which was imposed just over a month ago, follows the disclosure in *The Times* that United Nations troops in the Varosha district of Famagusta had on dozens of occasions in 1975 and 1976 reported looting by Turkish soldiers in the city.

The dispatch published in *The Times* was based on restricted United Nations reports in which Swedish officers spoke of the removal of furniture, house fittings, cars, motor cycles and even speedboats by Turkish-Cypriots under the command of Turkish Army officers.

General Quinn's decision was raised at the chief of staff's conference held at the United Nations headquarters in Nicosia on January 12 in the presence of Colonel de Chastelain, a Canadian officer who was serving as acting chief of staff. Representatives of all the nations in the United Nations force in Cyprus were also there; and, according to the official minutes of the conference, Lieutenant-Colonel L. Maier, the deputy commander of the Austrian police contingent, brought up the prohibition with Colonel de Chastelain.

Page 3 of the minutes records that "DCOMD Auscivpol (Deputy Commander, Austrian Civilian Police) also queried the decision as to longer use the term 'looting' when reporting activity in Varosha. Acting COS (chief of staff) replied that the EC (force commander) directed that 'looting' was not to be used."

When the original United Nations report was disclosed—repeatedly referring to the seizure of property in Varosha as "looting"—Greek-Cypriots claimed that they provided complete proof that Turkish-Cypriots were engaged in large-scale theft and appropriation of property and houses in northern Cyprus.

One Cyprus Government official asked why the United Nations Secretary-General's report did not refer to the activities of the Turks in such strong terms when his soldiers in Cyprus felt the words were warranted. Mr. Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish-Cypriot leader, angrily denied that any looting had taken place although he agreed that large amounts of property had been taken from Greek homes for "storage".

Major William Norman, the United Nations military public information officer, here—a British officer in the Green Howards who was present at the chief of staff's meeting in January—said in a statement tonight: "You will know of course that the word 'looting' has not been used in the Secretary-General's reports and the word only gained currency through *The Times* article just before Christmas. We have therefore had to become more precise over our internal terminology which is why we do not use it any more."

"We also do not use it any more in the light of the assurance we have from Mr. Denktaş that the property is only being confiscated and is being accounted for."

At the chief of staff's meeting, Major Norman raised the question of unofficial discussions with the press. According to the minutes of the meeting, contained in a document coded "Annex A to Ops 902" and marked "restricted", he reminded senior commanders that he should be informed when members of the press attempt to interview their personnel without first having been cleared by UNFICYP (United Nations Force in Cyprus).

Major Norman said that the press had been told that the property was only being confiscated and is being accounted for.



Mr. Richard Nixon, the former American President (right), discussing with Mr. David Frost, the television interviewer, final arrangements for four 90-minute interviews at his San Clemente home in California.

Gang of Four's own Watergate exposed

Hongkong, March 9.—Peking has exposed its own "Watergate case" involving the cover-up of counter-revolutionary activities of the Gang of Four led by Chairman Mao's widow, Chiang Ching, according to the New China news agency today.

It said Mr. Chang Chun-chiao, a former vice-premier and a member of the gang, had tried frantically to cover up some 90

articles written by himself in the 1930s attacking the Chinese Communist Party and Lu Hsun, the leading revolutionary writer.

The articles sang the praises of imperialism and the late General Chiang Kai-shek, the Nationalist leader, according to a report from Shanghai, where the articles were stored.

Quoting librarians there the report said that photographs

had also been found of Chiang Ching at a birthday celebration for Chiang Kai-shek and articles in which she "glorified the reactionary Kuomintang (the Nationalist Party)".

According to the news agency, librarians in Shanghai recently revealed how they were persecuted by Mr. Chang Chun-chiao, Chiang Ching and their gang in an effort to cover up their past.

America's biological war against itself

From Harold Schmeck, Washington, March 10

Army biological warfare experts once spread bacteria over parts of the Pennsylvania toll road, dumped germs in the ocean off San Francisco in a simulated attack and conducted similar open air tests of simulated germ warfare in many other cities and regions, according to an Army report to a Senate sub-committee made public this week.

The report, said 239 open-air tests of biological warfare agents were conducted between the Second World War and the cessation of chemical and biological warfare programmes in 1969.

In all cases the material let loose on American sea or soil was presumed to be totally harmless. In some instances the agent was an inert chemical; in others it was bacteria, presumed then to be harmless. The reports indicated that the harmlessness of some of the germs has since been questioned.

The test included the mock biological warfare attack in the New York underground railway that received much publicity in 1975 and the looting of presumably harmless biological weapons at the national airport and the Greyhound Bus station in Washington. The purpose of the tests, the report said, was to assess the vulnerability of the United States to chemical and biological warfare.

The testing programme consisted of two phases: phase one involved the use of presumably harmless simulants of biological warfare weapons; the second consisted of the testing, in volunteers, of germs believed to be capable of causing disease.

The report was made public at a hearing of the sub-committee on health and scientific resources of the Senate committee on human resources.

At the time the simulated germ warfare bacteria were used, they were assumed to be safe, Army witnesses said. The San Francisco tests, conducted in 1950, involved the use of bacteria called *Serratia marcescens*. The bacteria were dumped in the ocean, the evidence indicated.

The report said that this bacteria had been used widely since the early days of bacteriology to study the dissemination of bacteria in the air. In recent years, however, doubts as to its complete safety had arisen.

Brigadier General William Augerson, Army Assistant Surgeon General, told the senators that it was not until the end of the 1960s that conclusive evidence was developed indicating that the bacteria could be harmful to humans. He and Mr. Edward Miller, Assistant Secretary of the Army for research and development, said the purpose of looting the bacteria in populated areas was not to study the effects of the germs on humans. It was to assess the spread and the survival of the bacteria.

Some of the tests, notably the looting of simulated biological poison in the New York Underground, had become public knowledge and had been discussed widely; the full range of locations and the total number of tests of this kind appear to be new—New York Times News Service.

Birth control 'without compulsion' for India

From Richard Wigg, Bombay

A municipal family planning booth where voluntary operations were carried out was burnt down by an irate crowd in a Bombay suburb the other day after it was learnt that a youth of 16 had been persuaded to get himself sterilized for a reward of 100 rupees (US\$50).

The municipality denied afterwards that he had in fact been sterilized, but the police were unable to find the "motivator", a kind of social worker, who had brought the youth in and under the scheme allegedly earned himself 25 rupees.

India, where family planning is the largest in the world, carried out 7 million sterilization operations in a nine-month-long campaign last year. The figure compares with the total of 20 million sterilizations since such operations began.

But the crowd's action in setting fire to the booth shows that popular feelings are easily aroused over the idea of sterilization abuses which, together with errors committed in last year's crash programme, are being attacked by the opposition parties in the election campaign.

Mr. Sanjay Gandhi, the Prime Minister's younger son, who was the chief advocate of strong measures to limit families to two or three children, is now almost daily emphasizing that the Government believes in family planning "without compulsion".

The crash programme began when Dr. Karan Singh, Minister of Health and Family Planning, announced last April a population policy to combat a population of more than 600 million and, as he put it, "now rising at the rate of 10 million a month".

The annual increase in births was equivalent to the entire population of Australia and to wait for economic development and education to bring a drop in human fertility was "not a practical solution", he argued.

Public opinion is ready for stronger measures, he said, but since many parts of the country were not equipped with the medical infrastructure to cope with nationwide compulsory sterilization, the states were left to make the initiative.

Madhya Pradesh, the state in which Bombay lies, promptly passed a Bill compelling sterilization after registration of the third child, with up to two years' jail for those defying the law.

Other states, including Delhi itself, preferred to adopt administrative measures but

things quickly began to go wrong. Powerful "disincentives" were instituted: daily-paid government employees were not engaged unless they could produce vasectomy certificates; state loans to help those who wanted to build themselves a home were only granted after sterilization and school teachers were even recruited as "motivators" and required to produce a quota of five cases under penalty of setting back their own careers.

In the villages the promise of a free transistor or a 100 rupees incentive degenerated into intimidation campaigns. When the car of the family planning officials appeared in remote areas the younger population often simply fled.

Last autumn things reached crisis proportions in Northern India after serious incidents when the police rounded up inhabitants forcibly and were attacked. Things were worse in Uttar Pradesh state where on two days in October 40 people died as police fought rioting crowds at Muzaffarnagar, who were resisting an order to comply with the sterilization drive.

The tragedy, unreported by newspapers at the time because of strict censorship under the emergency regulations, proved a turning point, however, and the Maharashtra Bill never received presidential approval in Delhi. It has now been withdrawn and so, under mounting election campaign criticism, have various administrative disincentive measures elsewhere.

When I put it to Mrs. Avabai Wadia, president of the Family Planning Association of India, a non-government body with headquarters in Bombay, that the crash programme might have set back birth control, she replied: "In our view compulsion is not effective. We believe in voluntary family planning. In incentives which you might call indirect pressure which still leave each family a choice, even a barren choice."

Sterilization had come to the fore in India because of the long fertile period of couples due to early marriages, explained Mrs. Wadia, a Lincoln Inn-trained barrister. The authorities' commitment had brought a "tremendous step forward" through the number of sterilizations achieved last year.

The stark problem remains of finding means enough in a poor country other than compulsion to persuade 100 million women of child-bearing age and their husbands to accept voluntary family planning.

Delhi, March 10.—The opposition Janata Party today expressed concern over reports that large contingents of the border security police were being sent by the Government to various district headquarters only six days before the parliamentary elections.

A party spokesman told the press that there were apprehensions among the Janata followers that these forces might be used to influence the elections.

He asked for an assurance from Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, that she would use only fair means to fight the coming election. He said the local police forces in each district would be enough to maintain law and order.

Meanwhile, thousands of Janata Party political workers went on a day's hunger strike today to protest against the Government's continued detention of political prisoners without trial.

Mr. George Fernandes, the Socialist leader, who is accused of masterminding a plot to overthrow the Government, began

Will the career you choose make full use of your educational achievements?



Take a good look at what you've achieved so far. You're 18½ or over. You've got a good education and you've worked hard to get it. You've passed your 'A' levels. You may have gone on to take a degree.

But what happens next? You've been through the advertisements, they all say the same thing. "Wanted: young men and women with ability, ambition, initiative. Good prospects." You measure up. But do they? Good prospects are all very well, but are they enough? Will they make the best use of your qualifications?

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Any graduate or undergraduate in the final year of a full time degree course up to the age of 30 should consider the advantages of the special entry scheme. Any University or CNA A degree is acceptable.

For further details consult your University/ Polytechnic Careers Adviser or write to Supt. David Mellor, Room 611, Horseferry House, Dean Ryle Street, London SW1.

Graduates or final year undergraduates who did not recently apply under the special graduate entry scheme for 1977, which is now closed, can still apply to enter the police as ordinary entrants, and if successful will have a further opportunity to apply for a graduate entry scheme place during the first twelve months of their service.

Use your education to the full

From the start a Police career will stretch you, use all the initiative, education and ability you possess. It's rewarding too but you'll have to earn the rewards. You'll need to learn a lot (and fast) — and put that knowledge into use in tricky situations. You'll learn to make quick decisions. You'll get early responsibility and exercise personal judgement every day. And you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that you're doing a worthwhile job.

If you're ambitious you'll be glad to know that promotion is on merit, not seniority. And your education will stand you in good stead as you take on greater responsibility and more demanding work.

Theory and practice

There's a lot to learn during your first two years in the police. And it isn't easy. You'll go on courses, including one lasting several months at a Police Training Centre. You'll also have to build up practical experience, by getting down to real police work with your own force. Under guidance at first, you'll gradually

take more initiative and responsibility on your own. You'll be part of the team.

The challenge of the big cities

As well as valuable experience, your first two years will provide a springboard for the rest of your career. All your preconceived ideas of the work will have gone and you might decide that the Uniform Branch gives you the variety and satisfaction you seek. Or you may be looking for the chance of a more specialised role — in Traffic or the CID for example.

The opportunities are there — especially in and around the big cities. There's a current need for men and women of outstanding qualities, from any part of the country, to help crack the special problems big cities produce.

The Police College

The police service gets all its leaders from within its own ranks. So it is always on the lookout for the men and women of the future. You might be one. If so the Police College at Bramshill in Hampshire is bound to play an important role in your career.

Many Inspectors receive training at the college. If you are of outstanding ability you might, during your early years as a Constable, be selected for the Special Course. Competition is stiff, but those who are successful benefit from a system of accelerated promotion.

Sounds interesting? It is. You start on £2,400 per annum for a 40-hour week, rising to well over £3,000. Plus free housing or a generous rent allowance.

	LONDON (including underground allowances)		PROVINCES	
	Starting	Rising to	Starting	Rising to
CONSTABLE	£2,749	£3,408	£2,400	£3,024
SERGEANT	£3,786	£4,344	£3,402	£3,960
INSPECTOR	£4,540	£5,200	£3,960	£4,674
CHIEF INSPECTOR	£5,200	£5,875	£4,674	£5,286
SUPERINTENDENT	£6,979	£7,242	£6,222	£6,918

Current maximum rent allowance varies from £420-£980, according to area (half for single officers).

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To: Police Careers Officer, 4th Floor, Hope House, 45 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 8LT. Please send me an illustrated brochure on training, life and career prospects in the police:

Name (Mr. Mrs. Miss) _____
Address _____

County _____ Age _____
Are you in full-time education? Yes/No

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SPORT

Never a Test match quite like this

From Colin Cowdrey
Melbourne, March 10

Nearly 200 distinguished names associated with Anglo-Australian cricket have descended on Melbourne, guests of the Australian Cricket Board. It is a remarkable gathering to celebrate the centenary of Test cricket between the two countries.

For the Victoria Cricket Association it has been a triumph of planning and organization. Everything has gone smoothly. The ground looks perfect, huge crowds are expected, and only the unsettled weather could spoil the fun.

There has never been a Test match occasion quite like this. I only hope that our young team, fresh from their triumphs, will not be overawed by it. They will have become used to vast crowds, but they would not be human if they were oblivious of the galaxy of stars in the dress circle.

Wills, Lever and Old, with Underwood in support, could stretch the Australian batting, especially if there is low cloud overhead. I should not be sorry to see England lose the toss as there is bound to be some early moisture. Our selectors are faced with an awkward decision over Keith Fletcher, mindful that an experienced player has a contribution to make in a match like this. Moreover, he made a fine hundred here in the Test match two years ago.

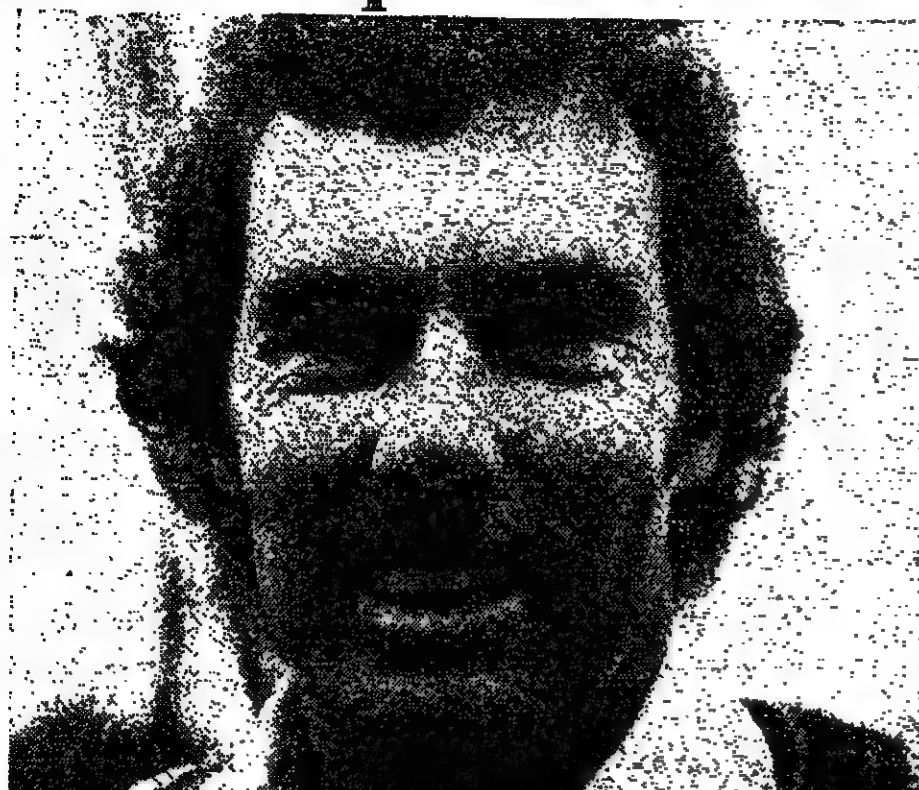
The Australian team is settled, yet Greg Chappell must bask for some more experienced players around him. Ian Chappell, Ross Edwards, and Ian Redpath will be watching from the stand. The Australian crowd looks to Greg Chappell for a captain's innings and he knows it.

I look forward to the first appearance of David Hookes. He will walk in to a royal reception, second only to that accorded to the Queen next week. Aged 21, with just 15 first class matches behind him and four successive first class hundreds this season, he looks every inch a cricketer. It is ironic that he owes part of his dramatic emergence to a season in English cricket for Dulwich Cricket Club. Rodney Marsh and Alan Knott will catch the eye, with Knott arguably the best cricketer on either side. Happily for him he will not suffer the experience of Leslie Ames, who used to call in at the butcher's shop on the corner every day for two rounds of steak, vital if smelly protection inside his gloves in face of the pounding from Larwood and Voce.

While Ames was telling the local press that bodyline was best forgotten, Tony Greig, the England captain, was sounding a clarion call across Australia that this match was "going to be war". Exaggeration of course, but Greig's brand of showmanship is in the modern idiom calculated to elicit public interest. He was very successful at it in India and his personality contributed hugely to the appeal of the tour. Here, he was taken by surprise with a friendly broadside from Harold Larwood beseeching him to give the English supporters less "steak and coddling" after every wicket and to save their energy for the job in hand. Greig took it in good part in keeping with the remarkable spirit of this occasion.

I enjoyed the sight of the Don, surrounded by Douglas Jardine's four fast bowlers, Larwood, Voce, Bowes and Allen. They had run this Don to such a degree but he was still smiling. I am sure he answered them with that smile and speed of foot, now his quick wit won the day. The subject of bodyline was never raised: the leg pulling was merciless, and I sensed in those few moments that some long-standing tensions had been eased. Lindwall and Miller, not known for their resistance, found themselves pinned in a corner by Sir Leonard Hutton and were not allowed to get a word in. They enjoyed it too, somewhat surprised, no doubt, to find their spin-like adversary coming out of his shell and revealing a rare sense of humour.

Throughout his career Hutton survived the Lindwall-Miller barrages with marvellous courage and great skill. It was good to see him taking the initiative here. It is appropriate, too, that Freddie Brown is chairman of the Cricket Council,



Vintage 1977: the opposing captains, Greg Chappell (above), of Australia, and Tony Greig, of England.



for there is no more popular figure here. He was captain in our first victory over Australia after the war, at Melbourne. We recall a superb innings from Simpson and some fine bowling by Bedser and Wright, each one in our party here.

Percy Fender, aged 88, has stood up to the journey well. With ailing sight he will not see a ball bowled, but his 12-year-old grandson has come as travelling companion to be his eyes and ears. His fun so far has been to sit in the foyer of the famous old Windsor Hotel, where the team have always stayed, waxing eloquent about Jack Hobbs and Warwick Armstrong. In 1921 he headed England's bowling averages and at Melbourne scored 59 and took five wickets.

We miss Frank Woolley, Andrew Sandham and Tiger Smith. On all sides Australians are sad that Arthur Gilligan, for whom they have such a warm regard, could not have been spared just one more year to enjoy these celebrations.

Of senior Australians Clive Grimmett has clear memories of bowling his leg spinner. Phil Fawcett, one of their greatest cover fieldsmen, described how hard he had endeavoured to run out Hobbs, without success.

On Saturday morning at the formal opening ceremony, Jack Ryder and Bob Wyatt, the two senior captains, will lead their respective teams of veterans on to the arena. After appropriate speeches and the national anthem, Greg Chappell and Tony Greig will walk to the middle to toss. Nostalgia will melt away, the match will be on and a new era launched. Five days here and a full series in England this summer. It has been heavy stuff and it will be much the same again a hundred years from now.

This is the first of a series of articles by Colin Cowdrey, the former England captain, on the centenary match in Melbourne.

Pakistan still hope to win series

Port of Spain, Trinidad, March 10.—The Pakistan cricket captain, Mushtaq Mohammad, still believes his side can win the five-match series against West Indies, in spite of their six-wicket defeat in the second Test which ended here yesterday.

Mushtaq, a stylish young right-handed batsman, is being rushed from Pakistan as a cover for the injured Haroon Rasheed and Saadq Mohammad, but Pakistan's real hopes rest on the return of Zaheer Abbas.

Zaheer broke a toe at the beginning of the tour and has missed the first two Tests. He batted superbly during Pakistan's recent drawn series against Australia, and is badly needed to strengthen his side's flagging middle order batting.

In spite of their victory which put them back in the series, West Indies feel that the balance of their side is still not quite right, and may call up Julien or King for the third Test starting in Guyana on March 19.

PAKISTAN: First Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: First Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Second Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Second Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Third Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Third Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Fourth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Fourth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Fifth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Fifth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Sixth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Sixth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Seventh Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Seventh Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Eighth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Eighth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Ninth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Ninth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Tenth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Tenth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Eleventh Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Eleventh Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Twelfth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Twelfth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Thirteenth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Thirteenth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Fourteenth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Fourteenth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Fifteenth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Fifteenth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

PAKISTAN: Sixteenth Innings
Mushtaq Mohammad, c and b Croft 17
Haroon Rasheed, c Richards b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Richards b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Gifford b Croft 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Croft b Gifford 12
Khan, c Croft b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

WEST INDIES: Sixteenth Innings
M. Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Haroon Rasheed, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Saadq Mohammad, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Imran Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Zaheer Abbas, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Khan, c Mushtaq b Gifford 12
Total 120
Extras 10 (b 3, lb 3, nb 3, w 1)

Rowing

Cambridge wake up in rough water

By Jim Railton

It would be difficult to give a blow by blow account of Cambridge's rowing course trial yesterday in their final preparations for the Boat Race on Saturday week (1 pm). Simply because no blows occurred.

Cambridge must have heard the cockerels crow at their headquarters in Epsom to be down at Chiswick for their nine o'clock row on parade and missed the best of an indifferent ebb tide, only to open their eyes around Hammersmith where the rough water acted as an alarm clock and brought them to life for the first time. Cambridge completed their course in 18min 51sec.

It was overall an indifferent row by Cambridge, partly escorted by Burdett's Bank and Goldie. Their ambitious second crew, which might have worried the Cambridge coach, Pat Delafield, was their lack of pace early on with the crew last clearing their stroke with the wind behind them almost to Hammersmith. What will please Delafield is the way Cambridge overcame the stormy seas from Hammersmith Bridge onwards with their prototype boat slithering over the waves and their strength of character to pick themselves up and finish with some blaze of glory.

On careful analysis, Cambridge simply proved their ability to row the full distance over the Boat Race course, which is reassuring after several months of training. Oxford, rowing the full course tomorrow afternoon, so far as the Tideway, they have taken on the appearance of a fast 2,100 metre crew. Notably, Oxford have concentrated on standing starts this week in an attempt to perfect a quick getaway. Overall Oxford's chances in the race to tackle the Tideway to Mortlake after on Saturday rather than a week on. They are straining at the leash.

Oxford spent yesterday bullying schoolboys crews from Canford and Westminster. Their main offering was a 1000 metre relay, which was won by the first crew to break four minutes from Putney Bridge to the Mile Post. They missed by four seconds.

Motor cycling
Sheene prepares for a hot time in Venezuela

Barry Sheene, the world champion, is on a fitness course to combat the heat and humidity he will face in Venezuela for the opening round of the world 500 cc motorcycle championship on Sunday week.

After unweaving the new, modified Japanese-built Suzuki machine which he will defend his title, Sheene said: "I have stopped drinking and cut down my smoking in one of the most basic training programmes I have ever undertaken. On the day of the race there last year the temperature was 39 degrees centigrade and the humidity 94 degrees. The crowd was sprayed with water by the local fire brigade to prevent them fainting. I fly to Venezuela on Tuesday to acclimatise and will keep up my daily two hours' exercise routine."

Sheene said his new bike, which has an oil and air suspension, better than the one he used last year, broke the Satterthorn short circuit lap record by over two seconds when he tried it for the first time in Britain on Wednesday.

Extra day at the Oval

The final Test match this summer between England and Australia, beginning at the Oval on August 25, will be extended from five to six days if neither side scores more than one match ahead, it was announced yesterday by the Test and County Cricket Board.

Somerset have been rebuffed in an approach for the West Indies fast bowler, Joel Garner, who has played in the first two Tests against Pakistan. Littleborough, the Central Lancashire League Club, have told Somerset that they will not release Garner from his contract with them this summer.

Tom Cartwright, aged 42, the former England, Warwickshire and Somerset bowler, will play for Glamorgan next season.

Three of tomorrow's champions with a relaxed approach to floor exercises

The presentation of the two millionth badge in the scheme run by the Sunday Times and the British Amateur Gymnastics Association.

Ice Skating

Cousins to have operation on left knee

Robin Cousins, the British ice skating champion, is to enter hospital today for an operation on his left knee. A breakdown forced him to withdraw from the world championships in Tokyo last week.

Cousins hopes to be fit enough in about seven weeks' time to go to the United States to undergo surgery by Carlo Fassi, who helped John Curry to win an Olympic gold medal last year. Unlike Curry, Cousins will not be leaving this country permanently. "It's just like going to university," he said, "except that it's a long way to 60."

EXEN: 1. V. Kovalev (Soviet Union), 188.10 (2); 2. J. F. (Soviet Union), 186.95 (1); 3. M. N. (Japan), 185.10 (1).

WOMEN: 1. J. F. (Soviet Union), 186.10 (2); 2. J. F. (Soviet Union), 185.10 (1); 3. M. N. (Japan), 185.10 (1).

PAIRS: 1. I. Rodnina and A. Zaitsev, 230.10 (2); 2. J. F. (Soviet Union), 228.10 (1); 3. M. N. (Japan), 225.10 (1).

Ice Hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Rangers 4, Minnesota North Stars 2. New York Islanders 4, Atlanta Flames 2. Pittsburgh Penguins 4, Colorado Rockies 2. Toronto Maple Leafs 4, Detroit Red Wings 2. Vancouver Canucks 4, Washington Capitals 2.

Tennis

JOHANNESBURG: C. Mottram beat C. Pasareanu 6-2, 6-0; B. Bolt beat M. Muller 6-2, 6-0; J. Pasareanu beat C. Pasareanu 6-2, 6-0; J. Pasareanu beat C. Pasareanu 6-2, 6-0.

Motor racing

Keegan joins Grand Prix circuit

Rupert Keegan, the 21-year-old son of a millionaire businessman, becomes the youngest driver to formula one motor racing when he makes his first appearance in the Race of Champions at Brands Hatch on Sunday, March 20.

Keegan, successful in formula three last year, will join the Grand Prix circuit at the wheel of a Barchin-designed 1977, sponsored by the unlikely combination of the Penthouse magazine and Rizla cigarette papers.

Yesterday's announcement of the team's plans also marked the arrival of Lord Alexander Barchin to formula one. Lord Barchin, who started James Hunt on the road to the world championship but was forced to leave because of the unlikely combination of the Penthouse magazine and Rizla cigarette papers.

Like Hunt, Keegan's early career has been punctuated by several crashes but now he is believed to have matured into a potential champion. Guy Edwards, another British driver, who campaigned the Penthouse-Rizla formula one car last year, has been moved to sports cars. He will drive Lola for the team at the Le Mans 24 hours race in June.

Steele promoted by Ireland

The vacancy at flank forward in the Irish rugby team to meet France at Lansdowne Road on Saturday, March 19, will be filled by Harry Steele (Ballymena).

Steele was called into the side yesterday when it was learnt that Shay Dearing (Garryowen) was still unfit because of a thigh injury.

Steele has one cap for Ireland, at No 8 against England last season. He plays for his club and his province, Ulster, as a No 8 but played twice for Ireland on the flank during the tour of New Zealand last summer. The two vacancies in the substitutes panel will be filled on Sunday.

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h April, 1977
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as 20p for reasonably-sized specimens, although most of those large enough to be worth buying will cost between 24p and 32p.

Citrus fruit represents good value since prices are about the same as this time last year and quality is as good as ever. Good fat grapefruit are plentiful at less than 10p each and there are plenty of first-class oranges and lemons at 7p each or less.

Apples and pears imported from the southern hemisphere were good this year, notably higher price than last year. Wholesalers said yesterday that such apples would probably cost 24p or 25p a pound.

Hugh Clayton

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

INTERNATIONAL

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School. College preparation. Placement. Official Test. Oxford G.C.E. and Royal. Commercial Studies. Entrance Courses JULY and

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£6,000 plus appointments

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An opportunity to apply statistical methods or sampling theory to the design of large-scale research into national policy issues undertaken by this large London-based survey research organisation.

The Sampling Branch forms part of Social Survey Division, which designs and conducts sample surveys of the general population and of many special groups within it on behalf of all the major government departments dealing with social policy. Amongst the projects currently in hand are surveys to do with housing and other environmental issues, employment, social and health services, economic circumstances of families, family formation and nutrition. The results of these surveys and the thought and action which go into their design and execution are a major aid to the formation, monitoring and evaluation of government social and economic policies.

Because of the wide range and variety of the work, Sampling Branch must constantly tackle fresh problems and appraise and extend its methodology. It therefore requires a Head with drive, a flexible and creative approach to practical problems of applied statistics, and the organising and management skills necessary to carry out a demanding and varied work programme.

Candidates (normally aged at least 28) must have a degree in statistics or mathematics (or another subject with a high statistical or mathematical content) or a suitable professional qualification. Considerable relevant experience at senior level is essential.

Starting salary, as a Principal Survey Officer, will be within the range £5,655-£8,225. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 29 March, 1977) write to Civil Service Commission, Alconbury Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1LB, telephone Basingstoke (0256) 65511 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref G/9458/2.

Office of Population Censuses and Surveys

CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

based London-West End

Debenhams Limited is one of the most successful and profitable retail businesses in the U.K. Our success is created and sustained by the 21,000 people who work in department stores and other shops throughout the country.

We are looking for a young doctor to apply imagination and ability to setting up and operating an occupational health service of the highest standard within the organisation.

The primary objectives will be the prevention of sickness and the promotion of health. The person appointed will be responsible to the Chief Executive and will have a professional responsibility to the Group's Consultant Physician. Ideally, the applicant will have experience and training in occupational medicine, although the opportunity for post graduate training will be provided if necessary.

Starting salary will be by arrangement and there are additional benefits one would expect of a major progressive employer.

Please write for an application form to the Group Consultant Physician: Dr. K. G. Bergin, Director, Cavendish Medical Centre, 89 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7FO

Debenhams

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To tidy up behind energetic entrepreneurs.

THE BUSINESS: Contract packing to the stringent requirements of the Pharmaceutical and Food Industries.

THE JOB: To develop, coordinate and control current and new ventures in a rapidly growing business.

THE REWARDS: Salary negotiable. A Directorship and a share of the business for the right man or woman.

THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE: Around 35 years old with a production background in the type of pharmaceutical contract packing business. A strong interest in Cost Accounting and financial control. A strong interest in the management of people. A strong interest in the management of people. A strong interest in the management of people.

THE LOCATION: South West England near Bournemouth.

Apply in writing with full details to: THE MANAGER/ESS, FITZROD LTD, WIMBORNE, DORSET.

International Controller

This position involves: (1) management accounting controller for multiple subsidiaries and planning as a primary control mechanism; (2) operating responsibility for central distribution; (3) manufacturing planning and start up for Europe.

You will be part of corporate systems team.

You will be a key member of the European management group.

We are looking for a very special person. We feel the position will be satisfying and challenging to a dedicated and qualified person.

Send CV to: Executive Vice-President, Cobe Inc, 37 Ave des Erables, 1640 Rhode St. Genesee, Belgium.

The Magistrates' Association

requires as its chief officer a

SECRETARY

to join the staff next September and succeed the retiring Secretary next January, with responsibility for organising and conducting the Association's affairs under the direction of the Council and its Committees. The position requires integrity, proven administrative ability and a thorough knowledge of the working of magistrates' courts. Salary in the range £5,000-£10,000 according to qualifications and experience.

Full particulars and application forms, returnable by 31st March, obtainable from The Chairman, The Magistrates' Association, 28 Fitzroy Square, London W1P 6ED.

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International Shoes and Handbags require a highly-experienced person to run their Bond Street shop. Salary £7,000-£10,000 according to ability.

Please apply in writing to:

John Turner

MIDAS

72 New Bond Street, London, W.1.

All replies will be treated in strictest confidence.

DIRECTOR CRAC Insight Programme

Are you concerned about young people's attitude to industry and commerce?

Do you have a business background at senior level, considerable experience of tutoring on varied aspects of management using the case study approach and other participative techniques and a good knowledge of the education system?

If so the Careers Research and Advisory Centre which has been developing links between the worlds of education and work over the past twelve years invites you to apply for the post of Director of its Insight Programme. The aim is to help sixth formers and undergraduates understand the world of business through short appreciation courses and other schemes of practical involvement.

This is a senior appointment. The salary is negotiable above £7,000 per annum and there are appropriate conditions of service.

Please write for an application form to J. L. Brodie, Executive Director, CRAC, Balemans Street, Cambridge CB2 1LZ.

CRAC

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I am looking for a part time accountancy position. I have been a Finance Director for 20 years and have extensive experience in all aspects of finance, including budgeting, cost accounting, and financial control. I am now seeking a part time position where I can use my skills and experience to help a business. I am available for 10-15 hours per week. Please contact me if you are interested.

TRULON PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT MANAGER/ESS

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Trulon is seeking a Product Development Manager/ESS to take control of all aspects of this new product.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the development, design, and production of new products. They will also be responsible for the management of the product development team.

Applicants should have a minimum of three years experience in product development. They should also have a degree in a relevant field.

Apply in writing to: JOHN WHITTON, HOBAN JIG, LONDON, N.11. (U.K.) D. 10 LOWER PARK ROAD.

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Applicants should possess an appropriate professional degree or equivalent qualification and have a minimum of three years experience in museums or galleries. The Conservator is required to work on both paper and oil painting restoration and reconstruction. The salary range is NZ\$12,000-12,500.00. The successful candidate will be responsible for the conservation of the collection. They will also be responsible for the management of the conservation team.

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LAWYER—preferably not less than 10 years' experience since admission or call required for large newspaper group. Salary according to experience. Pension scheme.

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Applications are invited from candidates with high academic qualifications, substantial business and administrative experience, and an active interest in research.

Salary according to Portsmouth Scale Grade VI—£8,037 plus appropriate proportion of cost of living supplement to £9,193 per annum.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Staff Officer, Portsmouth Polytechnic, Alexandra House, Museum Road, Portsmouth, PO1 2QQ, to whom completed applications should be returned by 28th March, 1977. Please quote ref. C47.

LOUIS BERGER INTERNATIONAL INC

has immediate openings for one or two years' duration in Saudi Arabia and the Middle East, Far East and Africa for Design Construction Supervision staff:

Senior Engineers

(10 years or more experience)

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Saudi Arabia assignments are single status only.

Initial review of applications scheduled for the week of 14th March, 1977.

Please send detailed curriculum vitae to: BERGER, 113 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1.

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Middle East Appointments

University of Petroleum & Minerals

Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

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Must attend to the operation, maintenance, repair and supervision of all the A.C. Departments and must be fully familiar with operation, preventive maintenance and trouble shooting of air conditioning plant of the absorption type. Carrier 100 ton or more and all related equipment such as:

- (A) Large Bellows 800 h.p. diesel operated, "Chester Brook"
- (B) Pneumatic control, "Honeywell"
- (C) Desiccant, vapor absorbers, etc.
- (D) All electrical equipment and controls related to above mentioned equipment.

Must also be familiar with large A.C. plant from 40 to 80 ton centrifugal type, preferably Carrier.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Not less than 5 years' experience. A Technical Diploma in Air Conditioning or in Mechanical Engineering is desirable but not essential.

(2) PLUMBING/PIPE FITTING SUPERVISOR

Must supervise the sanitary-plumbing/pipe fitting section and distribute jobs and assign all assignments pertaining to the plumbing section such as:

- (A) Preventive maintenance on all drinking water, raw water, and sewage network.
- (B) New installations and/or relevant repair jobs.
- (C) Repairs and preventive maintenance on domestic and laboratory installations, sanitary appliances and domestic appliances such as gas ranges, water heaters, etc.
- (D) Planning, notifying and operating main shut-off valves.
- (E) Providing all necessary materials with respect to above jobs.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Not less than 5 years' experience. A Technical Diploma in Plumbing is desirable but not essential.

For both the above positions, preference will be given to applicants having overseas experience, particularly in the Middle East.

Minimum regular contract for two years, renewable. Competitive salaries and allowances, free air conditioned and furnished housing, free air transportation to and from Dhahran, and other benefits. Attractive educational assistance grants for school-age dependent children. Local transportation allowance in cash each month. All earned income without taxes. Ten and half month duty each year with 4 days vacation paid.

Apply as soon as possible with complete resume on academic and professional background, list of references and with copies of diplomas/nationalities, including personal data, such as: nationality at birth and current, home and office addresses, telephone numbers, family status (wife's maiden name, names of children, age and sex).

Dhahran International Airport P.O. Box 144 Dr. Abdul Aziz Al-Dukhayli Dean of Faculty and Personnel Affairs University of Petroleum & Minerals Dhahran-Saudi Arabia

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£8,300 p.a., tax free 3 months paid holidays Super position in North Africa working for a first class U.K. based company (on short or long term contract) who offer exceptional benefits, i.e. free living accommodation, free travel expenses, also free fares to anywhere in the world. Preference not essential.

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Instrument and Trading Company require Senior Executive for local office. Wide experience in Import/Export, Sales and General Commerce necessary. Must be able to identify and develop new business opportunities. Free accommodation.

Apply Legal Manager, Mirror Group Newspapers Ltd., Holborn Circus, London EC1P 1DQ.

ARABIAN GULF

preferable with cooking ability required for small hotel. Free accommodation. Single status. Good negotiable salary.

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LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of YANGLING HEAT, INC. Limited by shares of the High Court of Justice (WALLINGTON) Ltd. in Liquidation. Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act 1948, that a General Meeting of the Members of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of the Liquidator, Messrs. G. MORRIS & CO., 113 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1, on Friday, 18th March 1977, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the report of the Liquidator and of the conduct of the Winding-Up and of the dividend payable to the Members of the Company.

Dated 28th February 1977. G. MORRIS, Liquidator.

In the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACTS, 1948 to 1967 and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act 1948, that a General Meeting of the Members of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of the Liquidator, Messrs. G. MORRIS & CO., 113 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1, on Friday, 18th March 1977, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the report of the Liquidator and of the conduct of the Winding-Up and of the dividend payable to the Members of the Company.

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of GREAVES INVESTMENTS Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948, notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act 1948, that a General Meeting of the Members of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of the Liquidator, Messrs. G. MORRIS & CO., 113 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1, on Friday, 18th March 1977, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the report of the Liquidator and of the conduct of the Winding-Up and of the dividend payable to the Members of the Company.

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LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of MIBCO LIMITED of 60, RUSSELL SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.1, notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 299 of the Companies Act 1948, that a General Meeting of the Members of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of the Liquidator, Messrs. G. MORRIS & CO., 113 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1, on Friday, 18th March 1977, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving the report of the Liquidator and of the conduct of the Winding-Up and of the dividend payable to the Members of the Company.

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Local Government, Public & Educational Appointments

GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART HEAD OF FINE ART

The Governors of the School invite applications for the post of Head of Fine Art. The holder will be responsible for the co-ordination of the work of the Painting, Sculpture and Printmaking areas which are now working towards a degree in Art, validated by the Council for National Academic Awards.

The successful applicant need not necessarily be an outstanding practitioner in any of these three areas. He or she must, however, have tact, skill and imagination in the development of courses at both Degree and Honours Degree level.

The School is a Scottish Central Institution financed directly by the Scottish Education Department.

The salary will be according to age and experience, with placing in the region of point 17 of the Heads of Department scale (£9,600 p.a.).

Forms of application and further particulars are obtainable from the Secretary and Treasurer, Glasgow School of Art, 167 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G3 6RQ, to whom completed applications should be made by the end of March, 1977.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LECTURESHIP IN GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in the field of contemporary urban geography (economic or social), tenable from 1 October, 1977, or as soon as possible thereafter. Salary in the range £4,600 to £7,000 p.a. Further information may be obtained from the Secretary of the Appointments Committee for the Faculty of Geography and Geology, Department of Mineralogy, Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3EW, to whom candidates should send their applications (in copies) together with the names of three referees, by April 15.

University of St. Andrews

CLIFFORD RICHARDS FELLOWSHIP IN SCOTTISH HISTORY

Applications are invited for the newly established Clifford Richards Fellowship in Scottish History. The Fellowship is for two years, from 1 October 1977, to 30 September 1979. The holder will be expected to undertake research in Scottish history, and to give lectures and seminars. The Fellowship is open to holders of a first degree in Scottish history, or to holders of a first degree in another subject who have completed a substantial amount of research in Scottish history. The Fellowship is open to holders of a first degree in another subject who have completed a substantial amount of research in Scottish history. The Fellowship is open to holders of a first degree in another subject who have completed a substantial amount of research in Scottish history.

University of Durham

DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED PHYSICS SENIOR DEMONSTRATOR

Applications are invited for the post of Senior Demonstrator in the Department of Applied Physics. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of applied physics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of applied physics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of applied physics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of applied physics.

NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of the Times Newspaper Limited. Details of these conditions are available on request.

University of Newcastle Upon Tyne

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY DEMONSTRATOR

Applications are invited for the post of Demonstrator in the Department of Psychology. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of psychology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of psychology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of psychology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of psychology.

The University of Leeds

SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT OF PURE MATHEMATICS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in the Department of Pure Mathematics. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of pure mathematics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of pure mathematics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of pure mathematics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of pure mathematics.

PARIS

The Herlitz School requires English Teachers for full-time positions. Details of these positions are available on request.

University of Aston in Birmingham

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

CHAIR IN POLITICAL ECONOMY

Applications are invited for a new Chair in Political Economy. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of political economy. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of political economy. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of political economy. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of political economy.

CHAIR IN SOCIAL HISTORY/SOCIOLOGY

Applications are invited for a new Chair in Social History/Sociology. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of social history/sociology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of social history/sociology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of social history/sociology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of social history/sociology.

The University of Leeds

Department of Earth Sciences

LECTURER IN SEDIMENTARY GEOLOGY

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Sedimentary Geology. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of sedimentary geology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of sedimentary geology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of sedimentary geology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of sedimentary geology.

University of Durham

DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED PHYSICS AND ELECTRONICS

LECTURER IN ELECTRONICS

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Electronics. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of electronics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of electronics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of electronics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of electronics.

GERMAN TEACHERS

German Teachers (mother tongue), experienced in teaching German as a foreign language. Details of these positions are available on request.

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

CHAIR IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Applications are invited for a new Chair in Computer Science. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of computer science. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of computer science. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of computer science. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of computer science.

The University of Leeds

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES

Applications are invited for TWO LECTURESHIPS

Applications are invited for two Lectureships in the Department of Management Studies. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of management studies. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of management studies. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of management studies. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of management studies.

The University of Nairobi

Kenya

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Zoology

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Zoology. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of zoology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of zoology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of zoology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of zoology.

University of London

READERSHIP OR LECTURESHIP IN FRENCH GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Applications are invited for a Readership or Lectureship in French Government and Politics. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of French government and politics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of French government and politics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of French government and politics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of French government and politics.

Ulster: The New University

CHAIR OF SOCIOLOGY

Applications are invited for a new Chair in Sociology. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of sociology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of sociology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of sociology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of sociology.

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM POLYTECHNIC

BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL OF MUSIC

SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER II required in the Academic/Graduate Faculty

Applicants should possess a Degree in Music (or Graduate Equivalent), but other practical qualifications especially in wind or string playing are advantageous. External professional activity encouraged.

Salary scales: SENIOR LECTURER: £5,031-£5,955 (bar) £6,417 + £312 supplement; LECTURER II: £3,279-£3,493 + £312 supplement.

Further details and application form (to be returned by 18th March, 1977) from: The Personnel Officer, City of Birmingham Polytechnic (7), Room B310, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2SU.

ROTHAMSTED EXPERI- MENTAL STATION

HARPENDEN, HERTS, AL5 2JQ

ORGANIC CHEMIST with wood pulp background

The Rothamsted Experimental Station is seeking an Organic Chemist with a wood pulp background. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the station's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of organic chemistry. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of organic chemistry. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of organic chemistry. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of organic chemistry.

University of Bristol

TEMPORARY LECTURESHIP IN SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Applications are invited for a temporary Lectureship in Social Administration. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of social administration. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of social administration. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of social administration. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of social administration.

University of Durham

LECTURER IN GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Geography. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of geography. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of geography. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of geography. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of geography.

THE WHITECHAPEL ART GALLERY

Wishes to appoint an Education and Community Officer. Knowledge of recent developments in the visual arts essential. Location of community experience essential. Details of these positions are available on request.

WYCLIFFE COLLEGE STONEHOUSE, GLOS.

Vacancy in April, 1977 for one term and possibly on a permanent basis from September to teach Music and English. Applications (with 3 references) to Headmaster, or enquiries to Stonehouse 2432.

oxford polytechnic

TEMPORARY LECTURER SENIOR LECTURESHIP IN MAMMALIAN PHYSIOLOGY

(£3,591-£6,729 p.a. under review), for 1 September 1977 to 31 August 1978.

Further information and application forms from: DAVID MORRIS, HEAD OF BIOLOGY, OXFORD POLYTECHNIC, OXFORD OX3 9PF, to whom applications, including the names of three referees, should be sent by 28 March, 1977.

ULSTER: THE NEW UNIVERSITY

School of Humanities SENIOR LECTURER IN LINGUISTICS

Applications are invited for the post of Senior Lecturer in Charge of Linguistics which is available from 1st October, 1977. Applicants should possess a higher degree in the subject and have experience of some kind of teaching and research. Salary scale (with FSSU/US\$): £6,443-£7,951 per annum.

School of Humanities TEMPORARY LECTURESHIP IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Applications are invited for the above post which is tenable for the period 1st January, 1978, to 31st August, 1978. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of English language. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of English language. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of English language. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of English language.

Further particulars for both posts may be obtained from The Registrar, The New University of Ulster, 100 Grosvenor Road, Belfast BT1 3AQ. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, not later than 30th April, 1977.

COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL ACADEMIC AWARDS

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

The Council for National Academic Awards has a vacancy for an Assistant Registrar (Research) in the Department of Academic Policy. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of academic policy. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of academic policy. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of academic policy. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of academic policy.

School of Agriculture, Aberdeen

AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Agricultural Chemistry and Biochemistry. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of agricultural chemistry and biochemistry. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of agricultural chemistry and biochemistry. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of agricultural chemistry and biochemistry. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of agricultural chemistry and biochemistry.

HEADSHIP OF DIVISION

To succeed the late Dr. T. S. Malar. Salary on College Grade 1 Scale, Aberdeen 1977. The salary scale for Lecturers in Agriculture is £6,443-£7,951 p.a. Further particulars may be obtained from The Registrar, School of Agriculture, Aberdeen 1977. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, not later than 30th April, 1977.

University of Bristol

Applications are invited for a post as

LECTURER IN ACCOUNTING

within the Department of Economics which is tenable from 1st April, 1977. The salary scale for Lecturers in Economics is £6,443-£7,951 p.a. Further particulars may be obtained from The Registrar, University of Bristol, Bristol 1977. Applications should be sent to the Registrar, not later than 30th April, 1977.

Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Salop

BY 12.00 A.M.

A 'WOODWARD' SCHOOL Required for September

ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN

A young man to study in religious studies and to assist in the spiritual life of the school. Details of these positions are available on request.

University of Reading

LECTURESHIP IN STATISTICS

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Statistics in the Department of Statistics. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of statistics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of statistics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of statistics. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of statistics.

University of Durham

LECTURER IN ARCHAEOLOGY

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Archaeology. The holder will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of archaeology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of archaeology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of archaeology. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of archaeology.

Leighton Park School, Reading

REQUIRE FOR HEAD OF CLASSICS

able to teach besides one or two French, German or Russian and have two years' experience as a Headmaster. Details of these positions are available on request.

Appointments Vacant also on page 15

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAUX

HEAD OF INFORMATION

To run a department of 22 people. The vacancy is not for a public relations post, but rather someone with a strong background in information and advice agencies, as well as managerial skills. The department is involved in a two-way information process: providing an up-to-date information and consultancy service to the 700 CABs throughout the UK and receiving information on problems from the CABs. The head of the information department will be required to co-ordinate the various functions of the department, ensuring its smooth running and initiating developments where required. He/she will also be involved in the NACAB management structure and as such have a part to play in the development of overall CAB policy. Salary: £23,443-£27,474 on a scale rising to £27,474 plus £133 London weightings. Four weeks annual leave, superannuation scheme.

PRESS & PUBLICITY OFFICER

To take over in May the running of a small but active Press & Publicity Unit at the Association's central office in London. The work will include contact with the national press, TV and radio, guidance to local Citizens Advice Bureaux on publicity matters, and the development of promotional material and publicity campaigns. Good organisational ability, initiative, and journalistic or public relations experience are essential. Some knowledge of the social services would be an advantage. The starting salary will be around £2,812 plus a London weighting, depending on qualifications and experience, and is on a scale rising to £2,812. Four weeks' annual leave. Superannuation scheme. Salary would like to find out more about what the job involves, please fax details, 01-436 4066.

For full details and application form for both posts apply to: Administrator, NCAS, 29 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3PH. Tel. 01-436 4066. Closing date: 28 March, 1977.

CIVIL ENGINEER PROJECT MANAGER IN SAUDI ARABIA

US\$32,500 per year (gross), including wages and participation in project profits. Construction company operating on an international scale requires a Project Manager for the construction of an industrial plant in Saudi Arabia. He will be in charge of the overall design, construction, and performance of the project. Applicants must have a degree in Civil Engineering or equivalent, and must have extensive experience in the construction of industrial plants. A knowledge of Arabic or French would be an advantage. The above-mentioned position does not include travelling, living and vehicle expenses, which shall be longer than usual, are pending application. Selection shall be made in Saudi Arabia, all travelling expenses incurred in this regard shall be on the account of the company. Applicants shall write to: CIVIL ENGINEER, P.O. Box 25233, Riyadh 11462, Saudi Arabia. Detailed and detailed professional details with a list of all projects managed.

ASSISTANT PURCHASING DIRECTOR

required for well-established company with worldwide interests. This is an interesting and progressive position for an intelligent person with a minimum of 10 years' experience in the Purchasing Department. Based in our pleasant City office, the successful candidate can expect a salary commensurate with experience of between £10,000 and £14,000 per annum. Attractive company benefits, including Londoners' Pension and share scheme. Please apply in writing, giving details of your experience, to: Mr. Neilson Limited, 20-22 Abchurch Lane, London EC4A 3DU.

ESTATE AGENTS

Intelligent man with sense of humour and a minimum of 10 years' experience in the Estate Agency. Public Estate Agents, considerable experience and good communication skills. The successful candidate will be responsible for the supervision of practical classes and for the maintenance of the department's equipment. The holder will also be expected to undertake research in the field of estate agency. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of estate agency. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of estate agency. The holder will be expected to undertake research in the field of estate agency.

IMPORTANT SPANISH ENGINEERING FIRM LOCATED IN MADRID

needs

Engineer

with following qualifications:-

SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE OF BID ANALYSIS THROUGH KNOWLEDGE OF VIBRATIONS

Highly experienced in the erection and alignment of equipment, instrumentation, starting-up and control. Able to work with big units composed of a train of various machines in series (turbine, reducer, motor, compressor, etc.) destined to petrochemical field. Candidates should send curriculum vitae indicating required remuneration to: Apartado de Correos 3227, Madrid, Spain.

WOMAN'S REALM MAGAZINE

The bright new Woman's Realm is looking for some bright new staff.

The expanding features department needs an Assistant Features Editor who has loads of sparkling ideas and the tenacity to see them carried through. Applicants should be thoroughly experienced in feature writing, organised, meticulous and able to brief others when necessary. Apply in writing: Miss L. Margach, Woman's Realm, I.P.C. Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London, S.E.1.

Wanted for ARGENTINA Mill-Manager (Textile-Engineer)

for

LARGE VERTICAL TEXTILE MILL

(Spinning, preparation, dyeing, weaving, finishing)

(located 50 miles from Buenos Aires)

- Good income—free housing.
- One month yearly leave.
- One free return trip to Europe every 3 years for husband and wife.

Candidates having the necessary knowledge and experience are invited to send their application, with curriculum vitae and references to

Prof. Dr. U. UNDEUTSCH
Haedenkampstrasse 2
D. 5000 KOELN 41
(Federal Republic of Germany)
who is in charge of the selection.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK CENTRE FOR AFRICA

is seeking to appoint

A DIRECTOR AND A DEPUTY DIRECTOR

who combine the personality and experience necessary to lead and foster the cooperation of host countries and agencies in Africa and the international community. The International Livestock Centre for Africa (ILCA) is one of several centres of the International Group for Agricultural Research. It is financed from international and national sources, with the mandate to assist national efforts to effect a change in the production and marketing systems of the people in this region, its programme extends over several areas: livestock production, biological, environmental and social sciences, including economics and information services, are represented on its staff.

Applications or nominations, and requests for further information concerning ILCA and the posts to be filled, may be addressed to either:

The Chairman
Board of Trustees of ILCA
P.O. Box 5688
Nairobi 10010, Kenya
or to the Secretary
ILCA
P.O. Box 5688
Nairobi 10010, Kenya

to arrive before 1 May, 1977.

CDS CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETY LTD.

The Society is registered with the Housing Corporation, financed by Housing Association Grants, and works mainly on the rehabilitation of old council housing in inner areas.

As well as providing effective management/development services, the Society has a responsibility to promote the establishment of housing co-operatives in the community.

A vacancy now exists in this enthusiastic young organisation for:-

ACCOUNTANT/FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

Salary Scale S01/S02 (£4,551-£5,204 plus superannuation)

A qualified, experienced accountant is required to implement revised accounting systems, prepare budgets and monitor financial progress, keep full sets of books and prepare annual accounts in the form recommended by the Housing Corporation. Applicants must be able to develop a good grasp of the Housing Act 1974 and provide the Society with a high level of professional advice.

Detailed applications please, in writing, giving full history to: The Chairman, CDS Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., 30-31 White Street, Liverpool, L1 4EU by 15th March, 1977.

Project Officer

Research planning and report writing

c. £4200

The Consumers' Association aims to provide independent and factually based guidance on goods and services available to the consumer. It does this predominantly through the Which? magazines.

The Project Officer will join a team responsible for planning and organising the research and testing which forms the basis of magazine reports, and for drafting reports for publication in Which? This will involve establishing a plan for each project, commissioning the appropriate testing, co-ordinating with others as necessary, and presenting the results in a way that is technically accurate and understandable to the layman.

Aged up to 30, you should have an honours degree and working experience in a supervisory or research planning environment. Experience of writing technical reports for the layman would be an advantage.

Salary will be negotiable around £4200 and benefits will

Eric Heffer

Direct elections: simply playing politics is not what the people want

Since the vote in the House of Commons against the guillotine motion curtailing discussion on the Scotland and Wales Bill, there has been a great deal of talk about direct elections to the European Assembly. The Cabinet has had a full day's meeting on the subject, as a result of which a "White Paper with Green Edges" will be presented to Parliament. The new Foreign Secretary has declared to the House of Commons his personal commitment to direct elections. The White Paper should be published within the next two weeks and will probably contain detailed arguments for and against the various methods of election.

In my view, direct elections to the European Assembly are no more popular in the country than the proposals for devolution, in fact less so, because the devolution proposals do at least carry some support in Scotland and were in Labour's manifesto, whereas direct elections carry little support anywhere. Especially now, when the detrimental effects of being in the EEC for a number of years are clear for all to see. However, attempts are now being made by some leading Tory politicians to play politics over the issue. They believe that following the vote on devolution, they can carry out a Government on the question of direct elections, and constantly press the Government, as did John Davies in the Commons last week, to bring in a Bill to introduce them at the earliest possible moment. If and when

such a Bill is introduced it is clear that it will herald a constitutional and political battle which will by no means be confined to the Labour Party. The Tories are also divided on the method of election, as well as on the principle.

Most of those who opposed Britain's continuing membership of the European Community during the referendum campaign in June 1975, will undoubtedly oppose direct elections. This is made clear, for example, in Ronald Bell's letter to *The Times* last Wednesday. They will be joined by others who whilst accepting the EEC as an economic co-ordinating further towards political unity. There are also those who will oppose direct elections on the very practical grounds that Britain cannot continuously be holding elections because it simply cannot afford them, and rather than strengthen democracy, such elections can, because of their frequency, undermine the Westminster Parliament.

It can and will be argued, that those who are against direct elections are acting like ostriches, and whether they like it or not, acceptance of entry into the EEC by the majority vote in the referendum, meant acceptance of direct elections. In fact, the people did not vote for direct elections, but there is a grain of truth in the charge, in the sense that there are some politicians in the country who will never accept the EEC, believing it to have been an unmitigated disaster for Britain.

Whether one accepts the EEC or not, one thing is crystal clear. It would be quite wrong, despite the assurances given by Harold Wilson, then PM, to the heads of government of the EEC countries, for Britain to rush into another major constitutional change. There are many complicated issues involved. There is the whole question of the method of elections. The Select Committee of the House of Commons, which has considered direct elections, has proposed that Britain should, as in parliamentary and municipal elections, and as proposed for the Scottish and Welsh Assemblies, have the "first past the post" system. This would entail the bringing together of between eight to ten constituencies forming one European constituency. Complications would arise if the elections were held at the same time to general elections. Most European governments want them on the same day throughout the Community.

Unfortunately, the turnout for local municipal elections has been depressingly low and for European elections would probably be even lower, with the results not being a true reflection of the political support of the parties in the country. Yet this system was adopted with the difference the whole country being added together, that would be a form of proportional representation and therefore a fundamental constitutional change.

Once such a system had been adopted for the European elections, pressure would

mount for a similar system for parliamentary and municipal elections, which could only result in coalition governments. There is also the question of who would draw up the list. In the Labour Party, under its Constitution, the list would be drawn up by the NEC, though during the existence of a Labour Government, the PM would have to be involved. This could lead to intractable arguments and serious conflict, apart from the fact that this is not to be encouraged.

Another suggestion is that the elections could be held on the same day as the general elections, and some of the MPs elected to Westminster could also be Euro MPs with seats in Westminster, as well as being directly elected to Strasbourg. It will be interesting to see just how many more ideas are advanced in the White Paper with Green Edges.

The Government has said it will use its "best endeavours" to meet its European partners over direct elections. They are, of course, in a cleft stick. For if they were to bring in a Bill quickly, which would please the governments of the EEC and the Euro-fanatics in Britain, they would then find themselves in conflict with the Labour Party conference.

It is worth recalling that at the Blackpool Conference the NEC of the party presented a document called "Direct Elections—arguments for and against".

The NEC stated it was in favour of the arguments against and recommended that

conference reject the principle of direct elections. There was also a resolution, moved by the Manchester Blackley CLP and carried by conference, on a show of hands, which said: "The conference opposes the introduction of direct elections to the European Economic Community Assembly, for which no mandate was given by the electorate at the time of the referendum. Direct elections are intended as a major step towards the merging of this country in a new super-state, which would further weaken the British people's democratic control over their own affairs and in which the possibility of carrying out the British Labour Party's basic programmes would be increasingly remote."

It can rightly be argued that the vote for remaining in the EEC was not a vote for a political union and certainly not a vote for federalism. The Government booklet issued at the time of the referendum said, "No important new policy can be decided in Brussels or anywhere else without the consent of the British minister answerable to a British Government and a British Parliament."

It is true that even now, we are increasingly affected by a series of directives, all emanating from Brussels. It is also true that Westminster has found it difficult to find sufficient time to discuss these directives, decisions and regulations, but some measure of influence remains.

If we had directly elected

representatives, Westminster would have little or no influence and the opportunities of the British people for influencing EEC policy would become almost impossible.

As Jim Callaghan, the Prime Minister, said at Portsmouth a number of years ago, "There will be an elected parliament for the whole EEC. Think of the situation then. It will be no use British electors coming to the candidate for a Westminster Parliament and complaining about prices and unemployment. They would have no more control over these matters than does the present Hampshire County Council."

"Take it up with the European Parliament," they will say. And the best of British luck, because our representatives are in a permanent minority there.

There is of course another line open to the Government. They can say to their EEC partners: "We have looked at every conceivable angle. We have used our best endeavours, there is no acceptable way forward on this issue. We therefore will leave things as they are. We shall send MPs to the European Assembly and we shall send as we do at the moment a permanent minority there."

The author is Labour MP for Liverpool, Walton.

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Sowing seeds of civil war will not help Rhodesians

Now and then in our lifetime we are conscious of a deep historical wrong being done to a people, or a group, or a person. Some of us then wonder what we as individuals can do about it. Usually the answer is—nothing; but once in a long while we make a puny effort towards putting things right.

In the 40 years since I first worked on newspapers, most of them on *The Times* abroad and in London, two such injustices have stuck in my throat. One is the wrong done to the Palestinians, and the other the injury that is being done now to the Rhodesians—the white and the black Rhodesians.

In the case of the Palestinians, their land and their homes were taken from them. The principle of founding a Zionist state was in itself unacceptable, but this should not have been done at the expense of some one else, particularly some innocent of the wrong done to the Jews in Europe. The only recompense that can be offered is a Palestinian state, and I tried to project such a state in articles in *The Times* 10 years ago or more.

Today, however, I am writing about the Rhodesians, not the Palestinians. To me, the wrong is being done in the immediate present to the whites, and in the longer term to the blacks, too, in Rhodesia. Again, the principle of bringing in African majority rule is in itself honourable enough, but Britain's recent dealings with Rhodesia have not been honourable.

I am speaking, of course, of the sequel to Dr Kissinger's mission up and down Africa last year. Until Mr. Roy Richard, chairman of the conference which was held in Geneva, went to Africa after that conference, he seemed to be trying to by-pass the Rhodesian Government. He got no thanks for this from the Africans, some of whom later angrily claimed that it was they who had been ignored; but one has only to look back at the record.

To take just one example. Mr. Richard spent weeks and weeks in Africa in argument with the Africans over a date for independence to begin, but newspaper readers could not tell whether the Rhodesian Government was ever consulted or agreed on this date. The Government, however, holds the power and to pursue its independence date, or want any decision on Rhodesia over its head, is like sending football teams on to the field without the ball.

It could not help wondering at the time whether the black man would have achieved more as chairman. Mr. Andrew Young, who now represents the United States at the United Nations and who has taken up the affairs of southern Africa, would at least be free of guilt, or would it be that makes so many British politicians deaf to any but African voices.

Mr. Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, as the Diplomatic Correspondent of *The Times* wrote on January 25 this year, would by Dr. Kissinger, when they met in South Africa, that he had to accept the Anglo-American five-point plan in full. This he did, but no one else did. Britain, with the EEC—and, for a time, even the new Administration in Washington—following her lead, finally acted as the proposals could and should be quietly forgotten.

Subsequently Mr. Crosland, the late Foreign Secretary, said that the Kissinger points had been only a basis for discussion, and were rejected by the African nationalists in Geneva. That, he implied, was the end of the matter. But how could they have been only a basis for negotiation if Dr. Kissinger told Mr. Smith that they would not be negotiable, and had to be accepted as a whole?



Mr. Young.

Why silence and acquiescence when Africans reject one set of proposals, but uproar and outrage if the Rhodesian government rejects another set?

Dr. Kissinger would not publicly acknowledge, when he made his last visit to London, that he had projected his five points as a concrete agreement, and not as cardboard to be scrapped; but he could not really make such a public admission then. He was in the twilight of leaving office and did not want to mar his own record; and he also did not want to embarrass the British government or the African presidents, whom he had consulted.

Mr. Andrew Young, however, has now admitted that the Kissinger proposals were meant to be lasting, by saying in so many words that the United States has left Britain holding the baby. Obviously, Dr. Kissinger did not persuade Mr. Smith to turn a somersault and accept majority rule in two years by simply blowing bubbles at him. Only when some Africans shifted their ground or dug their toes in, did Britain pretend that the Kissinger document was a mirage; yet Britain herself helped to draw up that document—the proposals were Anglo-American.

Each and every time that Mr. Smith is lectured he is told he must accept whatever propositions are being put to him because of the "ghastly" or "calamitous" consequences if he does not. The man who has refrain been pumped at his government; its very reputation is a weapon in the guerrilla war. But time goes by, and though murder intensifies the guerrillas still do not get the upper hand.

What does become more visible, especially in the manoeuvring just beyond Rhodesia's borders, is the planting of seeds of civil war between African power bases in Matabeleland and Mashonaland. Britain, by encouraging or trying to win the man who has the guns, is furthering this.

What then, do I as an individual propose to do about all this? I am going this month to live in Rhodesia for a year or more to work with the Government; there, and with the African people, too, as far as I can I should like also to be of use to the next British or American would-be conjurer who comes that way. I pray, though that he will be a man of flesh and blood, and not simply suave and bland.

What does become more visible, especially in the manoeuvring just beyond Rhodesia's borders, is the planting of seeds of civil war between African power bases in Matabeleland and Mashonaland. Britain, by encouraging or trying to win the man who has the guns, is furthering this.

Jerome Caminada

Production difficulties have necessitated some alterations in normal editorial schedules. Bernard Levin's columns will be resumed next week.

Enough to start a war, by jingo

An occasional series on new words and new meanings.

Chauvinism and chauvinist (as in male chauvinist pig, fascist in liberated and other trendy discourses) are vague words that have been widely popularized by the Women's Liberation Movement that came to birth in the United States in the 1960s. As a consequence, like all popularized technicalities, they tend to be used in inappropriate contexts, and with more emotion than precision. In the war between the sexes chauvinism is a brilliantly successful slogan to describe an attitude of superiority towards members of the opposite sex, or behaviour exemplifying such an attitude, in: "It is a sexist fallacy to fight male chauvinism with female chauvinism." (Sexist is another successfully expressive term of Women's Lib that has come into the common language.) Because chauvinism is so successful and so powerful a word, its use has been extravagantly extended, diluting its particular meaning, and spilling over into the proper territory of words such as nationalism and patriotism.

The primary meaning of chauvinism is exaggerated patriotism of a bellicose sort, for which the French originator coined the phrase *idiotie nationale*. It was a name invented for a nineteenth-century French quality, for which the closest contemporary British equivalent was *jingoism*. The name came from a French fustianer born at Rochefort, whose simple-minded heroism and devotion to Napoleon made him a byword and eventually an eponymous word in its own right. His military career, in parts at any rate, appears to have been legendary in the old-fashioned sense of the adjective. He is reported to have been wounded no fewer than 17 times in the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars, always in the

front, naturally. He had three fingers chopped off, a shoulder fractured, and his forehead horribly mutilated; and was rewarded for his services with a pension of 200 francs. The battered old soldier came to typify the cult of military glory and sacrificial patriotism that was popular after 1815 among the veterans of Napoleon's armies.

Satire, lampoons, and caricature during the 1830s ridiculed Chauvin as the exemplar of naive and blind patriotism, and chauvinism came to mean ultranationalism of any kind, whether Bonapartist or not. A popular play of 1831 called *Le Cocarde Tricolore* by Charles T. and Jean Hippolyte Cogniard made Chauvin a ridiculous household name, and secured his name immortality in the dictionaries. In it a silly old soldier called Chauvin sang a satirical song, *la chanson du Chameau*, which made all France laugh.

Chauvin marched farther than France. His fame spread to Italy, where he gave his name to *sciovinismo*. And he crossed the Channel into English in the middle of the nineteenth century. Significantly one of his examples in the *Oxford English Dictionary* declares: "Educated men are supposed to see the difference between patriotism and Chauvinism." The recent modern development of Nicolas Chauvin's legacy to the language has weakened that difference.

If it remains faintly true to its engagingly ludicrous eponymous father, the word chauvinism ought to mean an exaggerated and naive nationalism that looks down its nose on lesser breeds without the law. It was an apt and powerful derogatory metaphor to apply to males who regard females as naturally their inferiors, because of the supposed virtues of the masculine sex. But the trouble is that it has become such a popular cliché that it comes first to mind automatically instead of nationalism or patriotism, which are neutral or positive words. Chauvin was a dangerous clown. But he did not make all nationalism and all patriotism dangerous and foolish.

Philip Howard

Interesting ideas—but can they work?

In the struggle for power that is now developing in the Labour Party all the attention has been focused on the organizational battle. Who will hold the balance of the NEC? Who will control the constituency parties? Who will be elected to what post in the unions? But there is another battle, one always of particular importance in any left-wing party: the battle of ideas.

Political parties of the left are usually founded either to protect group interests or to pursue an ideology, or to do a bit of both. That is certainly true of the Labour Party. From the beginning at least, but not always compatible objectives: to further the interests of the trade unions and to build a socialist society. But there is another group, the pragmatic radicals, whose allegiance is essential but whose place in the party is always liable to be questioned. They are indispensable if the party is to win elections because, at any rate in Britain, their attitudes tend to be closer than other sections of the party to public opinion at large. But because they generally do not subscribe with any burning conviction to the party's two basic purposes they are under a standing obligation to show that they really do belong there.

In his massive and masterly biography of Ramsay MacDonald, Mr. David Marquand shows that MacDonald consistently put what he deemed to be the national interest above the more narrow considerations of the trade unions; and well before 1931 the precise nature of his socialist beliefs was unclear to many of his comrades. As a pragmatic radical he played the outstanding role in the rise of the party, but the continuing tragedy of 1931 is that his example has made life that much harder for pragmatic radicals in the party today. The onus is all the more on them to show that Labour is their true home.

Bugh Gaiskell met the challenge in characteristically forthright fashion when he told the 1955 party conference why he became a socialist. It

was not so much, he said, because I was a passionate advocate of public ownership, but because at a very early age I came to hate and loathe social injustice, because I dislike the class structure of our society, because I could not tolerate the indefensible differences of status and income which disfigure our society, because I hated the insecurity that affected such a large part of our community while others led lives of security and comfort, because I hated the poverty and the squalor."

This was the revisionist socialism of the 1930s for which Anthony Crosland provided the creed in his book, *The Future of Socialism*—the socialism of high public spending, economic expansion and social egalitarianism, but with little attachment to public ownership. Their belief in high public spending distinguished them from radicals in other parties. They had a distinctive philosophy even if it was not the socialism of more debarred members of the Labour Party.

But it is no longer the philosophy of pragmatic radicals in the Labour Party today. That is evident from the pamphlet, *What We Must Do*, now published by the Manifesto Group. Although it pays lip service to the principle of a high level of public expenditure, the practical emphasis is on the need to control it. It states flatly that there is no room for further increases in direct taxation and proposes certain reductions, even mentioning with favour a Canadian report recommending a more broadly based tax system with a rate of 50 per cent. Nor does this pamphlet worship Labour's more traditional household gods. It takes its stand unequivocally in support of the mixed economy and is scornful of nationalization as a cure in itself. It is as much a manifesto, less than a creed.

So the pamphlet dispenses with the defences employed by earlier generations of Labour's pragmatic radicals without falling back on the party's fail-

lar prepared positions. That is a mark of realism, but it does leave today's pragmatic radicals very much in need of someone to do for them what Anthony Crosland did for their predecessors in the 1930s. This pamphlet does not aim to be another *Future of Socialism*. It is more modest in purpose and achievement. But there are two other objectives that are still very much worth the effort. One is to specify with vigour and precision what right-wing Labour MPs believe should be done at this exceptionally difficult time. The other is to establish a distinctive philosophical position from which to fight if Labour loses the next election and the current economic policies are discredited within the party.

The very title, *What We Must Do*, suggests that it is aiming at the first target. In fact, it does not really bite either. Its recommendations concentrated on what can and should be done here and now for it to meet the first objective. It wobbles back and forth along the time scale. It is not a sufficiently rigorous and sustained piece of analysis to satisfy the second purpose. It is more like a manifesto, less than a creed.

But if it fails to establish a distinctive position for Labour's pragmatic radicals can one, none the less, discern from its pages how one may be constructed in the future? It starts from the proposition that the British economy is dominated by great producer groups on both sides of industry: large private companies, public corporations and trade unions. "Without their cooperation," no government can achieve its aims. Therefore what is needed is a positive government, one that mobilizes and canalizes their activity in the national interest by means of an incomes policy, a national trade policy linked to this industrial strategy, manpower and training policies. To guard against the dangers of the corporate state, Parliament

would be strengthened by developing the committee system. There are the makings of a philosophy that would be distinct both from Labour's left, with its belief in public ownership and control, and the radical right, with its distaste for interventionist policies. But to be convincing these ideas do need to be worked through more fully. Incomes policy is a case in point. There are three schools of thought on incomes policy: those who believe that to pursue one always does more harm than good; those who believe that it may occasionally be justified for a strictly limited time; and those who see it as a permanent instrument of economic policy. Those in the third school, like the authors of this pamphlet, have an obligation to show how it can operate satisfactorily.

The pamphlet proclaims that what is wanted "is an incomes policy which contains the average level of wage rises and yet responds to market forces within those limits." But how? One method, we are told, would be for government, unions and employers to bargain annually for the next year's average settlement, and then leave it to the unions and employers to negotiate its distribution. But would that not require a much more centralized union structure than Britain has ever possessed? What chance is there of that? The pamphlet wants another monitoring body, along the lines of the old Prices and Incomes Board. Could that be developed so as to have more than a marginal effect on the level of wages?

Such ideas need to be taken further in order to be convincing. But the right needs convincing ideas if it is to be more than the antithesis in the aftermath of a Labour defeat. In order to win the battle within the party the pragmatic radicals will have to appear more positive than that. This pamphlet is a help, but not an answer.

Geoffrey Smith

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The Times Diary

How you've been these 25 years

brought about by high taxation.

He also feels that we have been carried away by our love for tolerance and pacifism. We are so tolerant that we allow drugs and pornography, and so perfect that we allow others to cash in on jet aircraft and nuclear reactors, because we will not sell them ourselves until we are satisfied they are just right.

But he is not entirely despondent. To believe we are still hooked up in the world, for our efficient agriculture, our anti-pollution measures, our remarkable number of Nobel Prize-winners, but most of all for our monarchy. He tried, but could not for the life of him, remember the names of the presidents of West Germany or Italy. He had already put in instead of a Queen, he thinks, it would either have been Emanuel Shinwell or Harold Macmillan. And nobody would have been able to remember their names.

Clearing up

For the serious gardener, there is no really suitable time to take a holiday, except perhaps the middle of January. Returning to the Brixton allotment after an absence of about three weeks, I found the weed-growing season well under way.

With family assistance, I rescued the winter lettuce from being over-run by weeds. The lettuce have survived the hard winter well, are of a pleasing deep green colour and I should be able to start plucking them in a few weeks.

The autumn-sown onions, with which I did well last year, are less promising. It has become almost impossible to pick them out from the thick growth of grass and other weeds which surrounds them, and a good many have been knocked off by the frost.

My neighbouring allotment holders, notably the Ace Cultivator, have been active in my absence, turning my patch, which only a month ago was one of the best kept of all, into one of the scuffiest. They have cleared most of their sprouts and winter cabbages, making me feel obliged to do the same. This gave us a rich yield of greenery to consume over the weekend.

This year's sowings are determined by the fact that we shall be moving to the United States in July, so I am concentrating on crops that will mature before then. I have already put in broad beans (last autumn) and spinach, and have supplemented these with sugar peas, spring onions and more lettuce. This should stoke us up with vitamins before we are exposed to the junk food culture.

Celestial Seasonings, an American company, have taken the bold step (unusual in America) of marketing tea bags without tags, even though they boast, "people have enjoyed reading them, and we don't want to be seen as people-drinkers, the firm explains that it is being done for ecological reasons. "We feel," they declare mysteriously, "that quality of life is far more important than quantity."

Handicap

The London College of Furniture are holding a four-day seminar on equipment for the disabled, and yesterday they were discussing prospects for the future. Despite the ingenious devices displayed in neighbouring exhibition room, the prospects did not sound as bright as most people must have hoped.

Though speakers were at pains to emphasize how common disability was—"the normal person is someone who can hide his handicaps," said one—Frederick Cotter, chairman of the Association of Disabled Aid Manufacturers, said a principal difficulty was that the market for any product would be a small one.

"The aim," Cotter said, "should be a good variety of equipment with different purposes, not a variety of equipment with different finishes and detail but all for the same purpose. And they should be at a price that can be afforded." But British cost-consciousness is handicapping the manufacturers too. "At the moment we could not export our equipment to the Continent. The standards which

show they're printing the Times again, we can announce our engagement."



the Department of Health say are all that we in Britain can afford are simply not good enough from the point of view of quality of materials and workmanship to be accepted in say Sweden or Switzerland. That means that if we want to export we have to have a second range of products."

Eric Booth, of Queen Mary College, showed mobile chairs which could turn on their own axis, and highly manoeuvrable go-carts developed for thalidomide children. "The field is rich in amateur designers and

attractive for student projects" he said. "I think we should spend more on studies and more on building procedures."

There is an increasing interest in the use of voluntary labour resources. In any year we might get 500 suggestions from consultants for equipment that would be useful—but for which there is no money. Availability. If people all give time and effort to develop and build these things—themselves, there is potential there!

Spend, spend...

The Rating and Valuation Association held a meeting yesterday on "How best to delay your staff and resources in the present climate of financial stringency." The publicity leaflet noted that local government officers "will have to take crucial decisions in the use of their staff and resources to achieve the cuts in expenditure which are being required."

The meeting was held at the plush Cafe Royal and was scheduled to last three hours, two hours of which were taken up by coffee and lunch. The fee was £18.50 plus VAT, which included, as well as the discussion, "morning coffee, three-course lunch, wine and afternoon tea." Whatever happened to the climate of financial stringency?

Another advance in Japanese technology. The Japan Times reports that the Tokyo metro police government intends to adopt "a strict offensive odor control" employing "a human nose detection method."

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HANDLING HUMAN RIGHTS

President Carter's new weapon called "human rights" seems to have rattled the Russians as badly as a nuclear alert. It has also divided the allies in so far as Dr Owen has cautiously adopted it for Britain while Herr Schmidt and President Giscard have so far opted for non-proliferation. Clearly it has brought a whole new element into east-west relations. Yet very little analysis has been done of how it works and what it can be expected to achieve.

Its most obvious effect is to make the user feel better. This is not to be lightly dismissed. The United States has been through a serious crisis of confidence and is still adjusting to the relative decline in its military and ideological power. Liberal democracy as a whole is facing worrying questions about its ability to sustain the political and economic freedoms on which it is based. President Carter needs to do something to restore the confidence of the west. It is no bad thing to remind people what they are supposed to be defending and to draw attention to the fact that the freedoms they take for granted are still sufficiently attractive to inspire others to great sacrifice, and to shake governments which deny them.

The second most obvious effect of restoring the traditional moral or ideological content to American foreign policy is to renege the domestic support for détente which Dr Kissinger lost, and with luck also to regain some of the ideological appeal which the United States once had in the rest of the world, when it was seen as a revolutionary power with a message for the huddled masses yearning to be free. During the cold war, when the security of the world was at stake, the United States took precedence over the values being defended, the Soviet Union was able partly to usurp this role. Now the ideological appeal of the Soviet Union is mainly to aspiring autocrats, so there should be room for an American challenge. Obviously

this is regarded with ambivalence even by America's allies, for memories of moral phases in American foreign policy are not particularly happy. There seem, however, to be two essential new elements in Mr Carter's approach. First, he starts not from an assumption of America's own unassailable virtue but from a real awareness of her imperfections. Secondly, his moralism is not harnessed primarily to anti-communism but to much wider aspects of policy, including domestic affairs. It should, therefore, be less arrogant than past versions, and less easily corrupted by political opportunism.

To narrow the discussion down to east-west relations is clearly to distort the meaning of President Carter's policy, but since this is the area where it causes most problems it cannot avoid special examination. The Russians have shown themselves extremely sensitive on the subject, and fairly angry. Obviously they stand to lose if the United States succeeds in recovering some of its ideological appeal. They also dislike having their internal affairs discussed, especially in a way that shows up the gap between their words and their actions. Unlike fascist or racist governments, who can frankly reject democracy, the Russians pay lip service to concepts such as freedom and justice and are therefore particularly vulnerable to the sort of external or internal criticism which calls upon them to live up to their professed ideals.

They may also be genuinely worried about the stability of their empire, especially in eastern Europe, where the reservoirs of opposition are much deeper than in the Soviet Union. This may seem odd when in the last resort their tanks can always prevail, but the political and economic cost of having to suppress trouble in eastern Europe is enormous. Moreover, it has been a consistent aim of their policy for about thirty years to gain western endorsement of the

political status quo in Europe, and by are deeply disappointed that the Helsinki conference has not given it them.

They feel vulnerable on the human rights issue is therefore clear. What is less clear is precisely what use the west can or should make of this vulnerability. It would be simple, of course, to use it simply as a means of exerting diplomatic pressure, stiching western concern on at off according to whether the Russians are being cooperative in arms negotiations, trade or forgo trouble spots, but this would wholly destroy the credibility of the concern and very soon destroy its effectiveness. The concern must be genuine. In the case, can it do more than help a few individuals (a limited but undeniable aim)? Obviously the Soviet system cannot be expected to change very fast. It is based on centralized power of the party which is legitimized only by its claim to knowledge of the scientific laws of history. To legally dissent or to allow an independent judiciary, freedom of personal conscience, or free trade unions would undermine its entire basis of the system.

It has, however, been shown that there is scope for being more tolerant or less tolerant of dissent, more or less open to the outside world, and more or less willing to respond to east European aspirations. This is where western pressure can be effective and where it is justified. It is in the west's interest to encourage development in a more liberal direction not only for moral reasons but because in the long run it is the only way of dismantling the unnatural and dangerous confrontation which now divides Europe. There is, therefore, as stated in the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference, a narrow link between détente and respect for human rights, and while the manner in which this point is made is a matter for prudence and statesmanship rather than crude rhetoric the point itself must not be allowed to slide out of sight.

MR BHUTTO ROMPS HOME

Rather to the surprise of disinterested observers, comparing Mr Bhutto's public appearances with the enthusiastic crowds cheering the nine-party opposition Pakistan National Alliance, it is Mr Bhutto's Peoples Party that has romped home in the Pakistan elections. It may safely be assumed that some votes have been lost by the opposition and garnered by Mr Bhutto thanks to strong-arm or underhand methods. Pakistan is a country that has been under military rule for almost half of its thirty years' existence without discovering any peaceful momentum for its political life. That has remained crude, often violent and scarcely at all touched by democratic habits.

More importantly it is a country where landlords and peasants still stand in an age-old relationship despite several incomplete attempts to introduce land reform. Thirty years of regular balloting in India has done much to break the hard crust of apathetic obedience among illiterate peasants. Pakistan's second election in thirty years

may only now be cracking that surface. In such a society Mr Bhutto's constant fanfare and smash and grab electioneering methods can rake in the votes. Add to these advantages the control of the press, a coerced judiciary, a cowed and weakened civil service and such other curbs as his continuing state of emergency allows and it can be seen that Mr Bhutto's was not entirely an uphill struggle.

He could justifiably point also to the weakness of the opposition. They have had plenty to denounce in their campaign. Corruption at all levels, a disturbing inflation, the chaotic operation of law in all parts of the country. Such charges could be backed by the fairly strong distaste for Mr Bhutto's political style among most members of the professional classes. But the opposition had little positive alternative to offer with its mixture of reactionary Muslim, para-military and small right-wing parties. Neither policies nor personalities could convincingly rival Mr Bhutto's. His most consistent opponent, Air Marshal Asghar

Khan, is respected for his sincerity but offers no prospect of effective rule.

The case for Mr Bhutto is that he led the country away from the 1971 crisis, that he has held it together and that he means to modernize it. He is a confident man, a strong man, arrogant in his exercise of power, but what alternative leader of equal determination is to be found? Pakistan is still a country where political parties—including Mr Bhutto's—have no popular base. Worse, the continuity of striving to create a new nation, going back to the days of an undivided India, has been lost. The country that survived from the 1971 debacle has to face present realities. Internally they are formidable but not insurmountable. Externally Mr Bhutto can point to the backing of a large Muslim hinterland to the east and to the respectful coexistence he has negotiated with Mrs Gandhi's India. His massive vote may induce more tolerance, less concern to dominate, a less ruthless use of power.

THE FATE OF GREAT HOUSES

When the House of Lords debated the plight of Mentmore and houses like it on Wednesday, its members were able to draw on unparalleled resources of first-hand experience. That is half the trouble. The matter of privilege still bedevils the problem, even when Mentmore has been offered to the nation at a price far below what its contents alone could be expected to raise at the now almost inevitable piecemeal sale. But when the cost of acquiring the house must be set directly against the stringencies that have been imposed on the social services, it may well seem, as Lady Birk said in the debate, a luxury that we cannot afford. But this direct confrontation of interests is one that should never have been allowed to come about.

The merits of Paxton's giant house and its collections have been discussed at length in our columns and elsewhere (sometimes with that assumption of infallibility in aesthetic matters that led Paxton's contemporaries to demolish many of Wren's City churches). Clearly it is an outstanding example of a type that has suffered more from the vicissitudes of taste and fortune than country houses of other periods. The weight must be given to the Historic Buildings Council's high assessment of its importance, noted in the debate

by the Duke of Grafton ("... the only great house of the high Victorian period which has survived relatively intact... essential to keep the house, with its important fittings and its collection of French furniture, possibly the finest in the country, as a homogeneous whole..."). But it is as a test case that Mentmore gains its widest significance. If the existing system of protection for great houses can fail so spectacularly in this instance, there must be the gravest fears that rising prices and taxation will cause a series of similar losses. This fear explains much of the Government's caution; but letting Mentmore go will contribute nothing to solving the wider problem.

Lady Birk described in the debate how, as a socialist, she had once felt it paradoxical for the state to help owners of fine houses to remain in possession. But she soon saw that that was the most economical way of making the heritage widely available. The state could not support a fraction of the number of historic houses now in private hands, which have survived for the past thirty years because of a judicious system of aid conditional on public access. That system continues to be improved and still has room for improvement. Mentmore itself would probably have fared less badly if its fate had depended on the current capital transfer tax,

instead of the old estate duty system where exemptions were available for chattels but not buildings. The "Case 1" income tax exemptions enjoyed by homes profitably open to the public should be extended to others of merit that cannot benefit even.

At first sight, the ideal instrument for saving Mentmore would seem to be the Land Fund—money allocated for just such a purpose, and depriving no other social interest of resources. It is administered by the Treasury, which can be persuaded to make disbursements out of interest accruing to the fund, but is reluctant to draw on the capital sum. This year all or most of the interest is already committed—it is any case only a fraction of the asking price for Mentmore—and the Treasury stipulates that if the capital is to be raised, the Department of the Environment must make immediate repayment out of money for housing, meals on wheels, and so on. Once the interest would run to the purchase of a stately home or two, but today, administered as it is, the Fund is evidently no protection at all to houses of the largest size and quality. Now that the safety net is shown to be useless, it is all the more important that the taxation system should not drive more great houses to the point of needing it.

But even for those who get no more than they are strictly entitled to, the number of holidays and rest days in a year is 52—much different from Miss Kerrick's assertion that it is only four. Yours faithfully, S. T. KIDD, Commissioner, Grafton Government Office, 6 Grafton Street, W1.

Hongkong holidays

From the *Hongkong Government Commissioner, London*. Sir, Miss Terza Kerrick (Letters, March 2) is quite wrong when she says that the day of the Chinese New Year is the only holiday that the Chinese have in Hongkong. Under legislation, which came

into effect at the beginning of this year, the minimum number of days of holiday for most workers in Hongkong was increased from six to 10, and each worker became entitled to at least one rest day a week, instead of the former four days a month. Other employees in Hongkong, of course, have longer holidays, or work fewer than six days a week.

The release of Rudolf Hess

From Lord Shawcross, QC
From Mr Bernard Levin has done and not for the first time, in calling attention to the grave scandal of Rudolf Hess's continued imprisonment in Spandau—by, be it noted, the British, French and Americans as well as the Russians.

As the Chief British Prosecutor at Nuremberg, I myself had serious misgivings as to the fitness of Hess to stand trial at all. This issue was, however, decided by others although not without doubt. I was rather surprised at the severity of the sentence: in comparison the guilt of others who were either acquitted or received shorter sentences had appeared greater. I have, however, little doubt that in imposing life sentences, the majority of the judges assumed that the usual humanitarian practice of remission would be applied: the Russians, of course, were in favour of hanging everybody, preferably without trial at all.

The Hess case ought not, however, to be viewed in isolation. It is simply one out of very many horrors of the Soviet system, a complete disregard of the human personality and in itself no worse than their disreputable practice of incarcerating those who are brave enough to disagree with their policies, were in favour of hanging everybody, preferably without trial at all.

But the Americans, British and French should no longer allow themselves to be parties to this particular instance of man's inhumanity to man. I agree with Mr Levin that the proper course is for one of the countries, during the monthly period which each has to administer Spandau, to release Hess to some hospital where he can die in some sort of peace and dignity. This would, it is true, prevent the Soviets conducting their periodical military parade through Berlin to Spandau. It would have no other long term result save to show that we are not, after all, willing to be accessories to every act of brutality by the Russians.

Yours truly,
ARTLEY SHAWCROSS,
House of Lords,
March 3.

Future of Mentmore

From the Chairman and Secretary of Bridge in Danger
Sir, Jonathan Sumpson's intervention in the debate on Mentmore (March 1) is muddled and confusing.

The fact is that the Government's "obligations" in matters of this kind have been explicitly set out on several occasions. For example, in the 1969 Paper on the Wealth Tax it is stated that the Government intend to ensure that the dispersal of the national heritage "shall happen and that instead of the private sector, the public should be made aware of the value of the national heritage". As recently as February 28 a parliamentary answer from the Minister of State in the Education Department confirmed that steps were being taken "to ensure that the national heritage was open to the public as a whole".

In such discussions it is too often overlooked that the fiscal mechanisms for the discharge of capital taxes have already existed, covering additional income tax in the 1973 Finance Act) complete collections and groups of objects of art and history. And can it be doubted that the ability of the whole of the estate of the late Lord Rosebery to be sold, at which Mentmore was included, has been offered in satisfaction of tax? Mentmore could accordingly be acquired for the nation at the cost of an exchequer book entry.

Mr Sumpson makes great play with the desirability in general of the preservation of works of art. With this we would agree, but would contend that balance should be struck and exceptions made in such cases as this.

In conclusion, Mr Sumpson's preference for acquisitions by private collectors is based rather than public museums. For reasons of relation to what happens in the real world. The truth is that, as far as the United States is concerned, a vast proportion of the ostensibly historic houses and works of art are for the benefit of public institutions under the enlightened provisions of American income tax laws.

Yours faithfully,
COTESLOE,
Chairman,
HUGH LEGGATT,
Hon Secretary,
Heritage in Danger,
30 St James's Street, SW1,
March 3.

German composers

From Mr Gerald Norris
Sir, Of course Germany deserves to be praised for the great composers she has produced. But should Professor Gregory (February 28) classify Haydn (February 28) and Bruckner simply as "German-speaking composers"? Would not "Austrian" be more specific? Indeed, if Professor Gregory were to refer to his German and German-speaking composers as "Vienna-based composers", not only would his performance figures remain largely the same, but he could then legitimately include the Czech, Mahler.

In addition, he supports his claims of German musical dominance by citing symphonies, concertos, sonatas and chamber works. Yet these are essentially German and Austrian-developed art forms. If he had chosen symphonic poems or orchestral rhapsodies, would his performance figures look so impressive?

And what if he had ranged beyond the South Bank, to include operas and ballets? Or merely confined himself to mazurkas, polonaises, waltzes and études? Yours faithfully,
GERALD NORRIS,
13 Warren Avenue,
Cheam,
Surrey,
February 29.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Splitting the Treasury

From Mr David Howell, MP for Guildford (Conservative)
Sir, I write to support Sir Samuel Goldman (March 3) in his views on the question of splitting the Treasury. Sir Samuel is entirely right to warn against some of the arguments now being aired in favour of a split.

There has long been a case for a much stronger alternative voice near the heart of government on issues of economic strategy. Back in 1970, I personally hoped that the Central Policy Review Committee would provide this, particularly where public expenditure policy was concerned. I also hoped that as the Expenditure Committee system developed it would give Parliament a better focused and more effective say in economic policy, and especially in questions of budgetary and monetary policy. The latter hope is to some extent being justified.

It may also be that a stronger and more distinct public status for the central banking and monetary authority would open up the public debate and improve the quality of economic and financial management. But how the creation of a new expenditure department at the centre of government in Whitehall would help us now, I cannot see.

The key to public expenditure control is the political will of the Cabinet, founded upon the best and most explicit advice available about the consequences—fiscal, monetary, inflationary and structural—of any proposed spending rise beyond agreed levels, or at beyond agreed rates.

That lesson has been painfully learnt, and will have to go on being learnt. To propose now to split the Treasury is to offer the wrong solution many years too late. In today's context it would add confusion and bureaucracy just at the moment when our national economic picture is becoming clearer and less daunting than at any time in the last decade.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HOWELL,
House of Commons.

Control of wage bill

From Professor J. E. Meade, FBA
Sir, In revising a social contract between the government and the trade union movement is sought which will effectively restrain the rate of inflation but will nevertheless leave room for greater flexibility in the determination of wage differentials.

It is possible to suggest that a revised social contract, if the government undertakes to ensure that there is a steadily rising demand for labour, while the trade union movement undertakes to ensure that there is an appropriate distribution of the rising total wage bill. Such division of responsibilities would realistically recognize the present power structure in the country. I have no desire in this letter to discuss the merits or demerits of that structure. But in fact it extends and is likely to continue, and common sense suggests that we should all seek a way of managing affairs effectively on this realistic basis.

Such a revised social contract

Saving Nimrod

From Mr Geoffrey Pattie, MP for Chertsey and Walton (Conservative)
Sir, When someone as expert as Field Marshal Sir Michael Carver writes about defence, then the nation would do well to pay close attention to what he has to say. His article was published not only in the week of the latest rather vacuous White Paper, but also the day after the "roll out", or first public appearance, of Britain's Nimrod Airborne Early Warning aircraft.

There is at present a failure within NATO to agree on the cost sharing arrangements of the American system to be inter-operable either with AWACS or with the other cheaper United States system, the Grumman Hawkeye. The Americans have incidentally conceded this possibility operationally by having these two systems AWACS and Hawkeye, and no one is suggesting that they are not inter-operable. If this comes to pass, Britain will be well covered for airborne early warning and thereby will be achieving a NATO task while at the same time maintaining our vital industrial capacity.

Field Marshal Carver urges us to "find the right balance... between dependence and independence: between wholesale standardization which inevitably means domination by the powerful American defence industry and the highest degree of both standardization and inter-operability which will permit the preservation of viable European defence industries." The right course of action now is for the Government to inform NATO that because of the delayed decision Britain will now abandon AWACS and proceed with our own system. This will be the right decision albeit for the wrong reasons.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY PATTIE,
House of Commons.

Censorship of erotic art

From Mr Nicolas Walter
Sir, Once again David Holbrook drags the New Humanist into his campaign for the censorship of material which he disapproves of—stating (March 3) that "some magazines will publish nothing that does not argue in favour of total abolition of censorship (eg the New Humanist)".

So far as I am aware, the New Humanist has published virtually nothing that does argue in favour of total abolition of censorship, and during the two years that I have been editor it has published several items on the other side—readers' letters attacking complete freedom of expression (May, June, October 1975), a report of American research demonstrating links between sexual arousal and aggressive behaviour (August, 1975), an editorial criticism of obscene religious films such as *The Exorcist* and *The Omen* (September-October, 1976), and an article by a humanist member of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association (January, February, 1977). During the three

would be based on three principles.

First, the government would announce its determination to use monetary and fiscal policies on Keynesian lines in such a way as to ensure a growth in the total money demand for labour at a rate of, say, 10 per cent per annum for the first year and thereafter at a steady rate of, say, 5 per cent per annum. In other words monetary and fiscal policies would be used promptly and flexibly to ensure that the level of total weekly earnings rose by 20 per cent over the next 12 months. If total earnings started to rise more quickly, fiscal and monetary policies would be used to deflate the demand for goods and services; if they started to rise less quickly, the demand for the products of labour would be stimulated.

Second, the trade union movement would then have the responsibility (to correspond with its existing power) of deciding how the 10 per cent rise in the total of money earnings should be distributed. They would thereby be responsible for determining both the level of unemployment and the wage differentials between different categories of employed persons. If, for example, the volume of employment is to rise by 2 per cent, then with a 10 per cent rise in total earnings, the average earnings per head could rise by only 8 per cent. If any one group demands a rise in its average earnings of more than 10 per cent, then either some other group must demand a rise of less than 10 per cent or else unemployment must be allowed to rise.

The trade union movement would be invited as their contribution to the social contract to devise some means of jointly shouldering their responsibility in a way which did not imply heavy unemployment. Third, prices should be effectively controlled by a Price Commission to ensure that on the basis of wage costs and costs of raw materials profit margins are kept down to levels which permit reasonable, but only reasonable, rates of return on capital employed.

It is in fact an impossibility to control inflation and simultaneously to obtain full employment unless simultaneously (1) total money expenditures are restrained and (2) within this restrained level of expenditures money costs per unit of output are kept down sufficiently to permit the full employment of resources. With our present institutions the government can accept responsibility for the first of these two conditions; but given that present powers, the trade unions must accept responsibility for the second.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. MEADE,
40 High Street,
Little Shelford,
Cambridge.

My second comment is on the letter you published from Mrs Daisy Swindell (February 26) about W. H. Auden's grave. I was touched, as I am sure most of your readers were, to read of the village of Kirchstetten continuing to honour the memory of W. H. Auden. I have written to the Bürgermeister, on behalf of the Arts Council of Great Britain, and of Auden's many admirers, acknowledging the citizens of Kirchstetten's remembrance of the great poet who was part of their community, and thanking them.

Yours truly,
CHARLES OSBORNE,
Literature Director,
The Arts Council of Great Britain,
105 Piccadilly, W1,
February 26.

Princess Sebel Desta

From Lord Beaumont of Whitley and others

Sir, Those of us who were at Oxford in the early 1950s still remember the gentle figure of Princess Sebel Desta of Ethiopia, who came to school in Britain after the war and completed her education at Lady Margaret Hall from 1950-1953.

Since 1974, when her grandfather Haile Selassie was overthrown, she and the other female members of the former Royal Family, including two teenage girls, have been imprisoned in Addis Ababa. With them in Akale prison are the wives and daughters of former Government officials and the wives and daughters of alleged opposition party members, about a hundred women in all. They are housed in three rooms in their prison. Princess Sebel and fourteen of her relatives are kept in a room five metres square; the other prisoners are even more crowded.

According to Amnesty International, the hygienic arrangements are primitive: there are no mattresses, no floors, no chairs or tables; medical treatment is minimal (one of the princesses died recently, following an operation) and the prisoners' morale is low. Two of the royal captives have already suffered nervous breakdowns, and Sebel Desta is reported to be seriously underweight.

The recent change in the Ethiopian regime has not so far resulted in a change of policy towards these women prisoners. March 8 is International Women's Day. May we ask all who value freedom, and all who value Sebel, and all who value freedom, to join us in protesting against their continuing captivity?

Yours faithfully,
CAROLINE, ANTHONY, LESLIE, SUZANNE, ANNE, DIXON, BARTHELEMY, MARIGOLD, JOHNSON, JUDITH, THORPE.

31 Hereford Square, SW7,
March 7.

What Keats drank

From Mr Stella Humphries
Sir, Whatever Keats's taste in wine, Sebel Desta knew too one of the wine Banquet Scene in *The Act* (Act 1, Sc. 3, 177) reads:

Oh, thou bright wine, whose purple splendour leaps And bubbles gaily in bowl!

The Cent and The Nightingale are pretty well contemporary of the Year? Yours faithfully,
STELLA HUMPHRIES,
71 Cameron Road,
Bromley, Kent,
February 28.

GHANA

Divisions healing after 20 years

by Kenneth
MacKenzie

Just 20 years ago, amid wild celebrations in the streets of Accra and after a gracious speech by the Duchess of Kent, the colony of the Gold Coast became the independent state of Ghana. It was a time of great hopes.

In London people dreamt about the friendly hand-over of power leading to a stable, democratic (on the Westminster model) addition to the British Commonwealth.

In Accra people dreamt about setting up a socialist state whose growing prosperity would be shared by all of leading the whole continent out of colonialism and into a united states of Africa.

These dreams foundered, and to that extent the story of Ghana's first 20 years might be regarded as one of failure, or of a succession of failures. But it might also be simply that the expectations were wrong.

Certainly no one visiting Accra today would find there a sense of disappointment or sadness. The spirit and gaiety for which Ghana has always been famous remains unimpaired. There is now, five years after Ghana's second military coup, a new sort of hopefulness growing among some people, a feeling that perhaps for the first time the right road forward may be coming into sight.

To deal with the fallacies first, the great hero of 1957 was Kwame Nkrumah and the extent of his failure was seen in the fact that hardly a Ghanaian rose to defend him when the Army removed him from power in 1966. It seemed that the whole country was delighted as people jumped on his portraits and ripped his statues.

They are putting up the statues again now. The pendulum has swung, and the present regime is preparing full honours for a great African statesman when his final funeral rites are held next month. People pride with pride to his achievements, the complete reconstruction of the Volta River Pro-

ject, the huge advance in education (3,500 children in secondary schools in 1951, and 19,000 in 1961), to name only a few.

There is a feeling that much of what he said about the dangers of neo-colonialism, for instance, was right, though much of what he did was ineffective. Above all, he was the man who took Africa on to the world stage, standing shoulder to shoulder with the leaders of other nations.

They tell you in Ghana that the West exaggerated his leanings towards the cult of the personality, that the significance of his assuming the title *Osufofo* (Redeemer) was misunderstood. But there is no doubt about the dictatorial powers he increasingly exercised, the detentions of political opponents and former allies, the pervasive fear and the end of the rule of law (a chief justice dismissed because Nkrumah disagreed with his verdict). The fact that he narrowly survived two attempts on his life explains much of this but does not really excuse it.

No one denies, too, that there had been a basic political failure: he did not keep in any sort of contact with the people he ruled, and his Convention People's Party became a corrupt sort of bureaucracy instead of a genuine mass movement. Most important, his financial policies (helped by a sharp fall in the price of cocoa) had brought Ghana to the edge of bankruptcy by 1966.

The soldiers who took over while he was on a visit to Peking called themselves the National Liberation Movement. "The myth of Nkrumah has been broken," their leader, Colonel E. K. Kotoka, said in his first broadcast.

Their declared aim was to return Ghana to democracy and, most unusually for military coups, they proceeded to do just that. Committees of inquiry led to a constitutional commission, which led to a constituent assembly, which led in 1969 to a well-ordered general election. The Progress Party of Dr

Kofi Busia, a long-standing opponent of Dr Nkrumah, won an overwhelming victory, and he was handed power by the generals. His period of rule is generally taken to be the second great failure story.

Party politics degenerated into seriously divisive strife; the new constitution was suspended; corruption (an endemic disease in West Africa) grew out of hand; economic mismanagement was unchecked and the overseas debt became markedly worse.

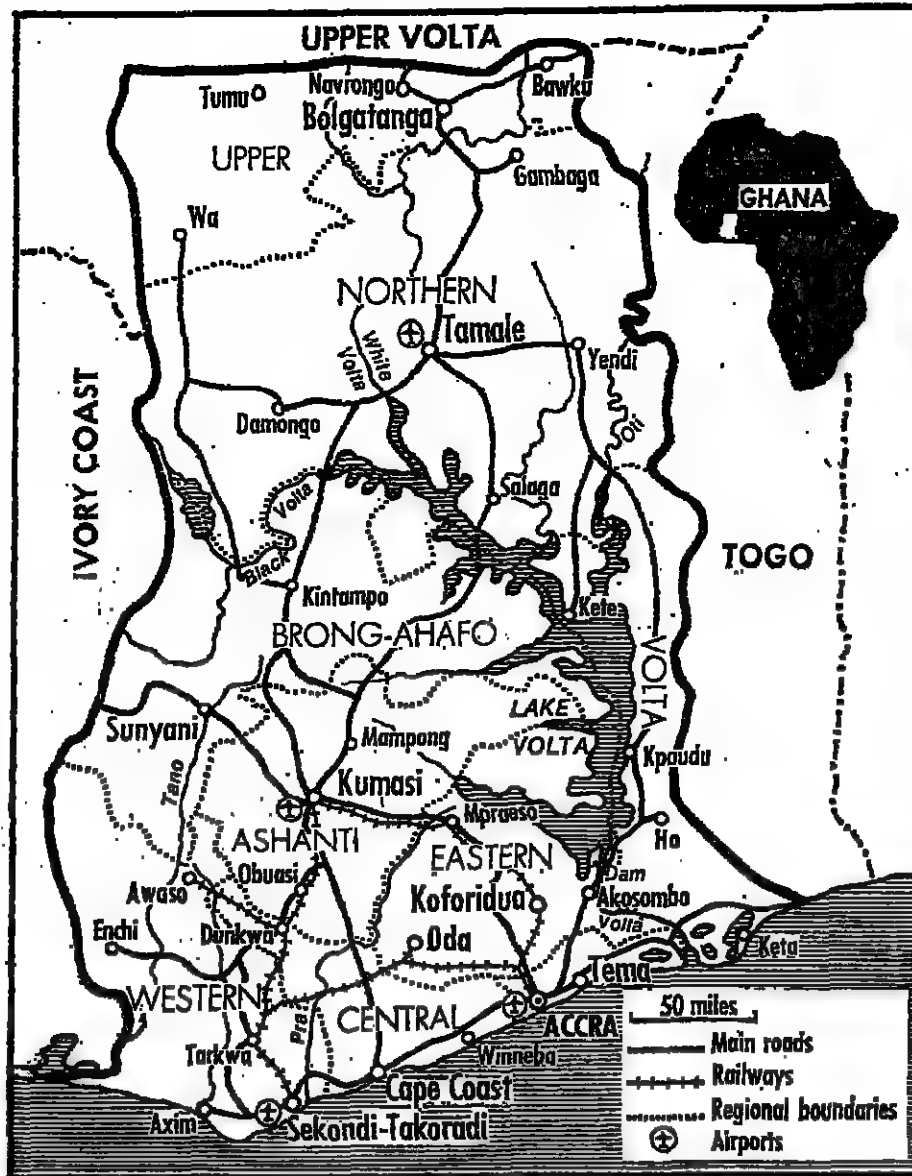
In January, 1972, while Dr Busia was in England, the almost unknown Colonel Ignatius Kutu Acheampong, commander of 1 Brigade in Accra, seized power, backed by a group of fairly junior officers. This is the point where the Ghana optimists begin to find some reason for their hopefulness.

General Acheampong, as he now is, has no driving political ideology. He likes to put himself over as a simple soldier, professing the military virtues of courage, patriotism, straightforwardness and honourableness. He took over because he found the middle and corruption had become intolerable. It had also begun to affect the welfare and organization of his beloved army.

The son of an Ashanti farmer, he was a school teacher for a short time before going into the army. He did his officer training in France and America (not Sandhurst, unlike many Ghanaian officers). He is a devout Roman Catholic.

No one would call him an attractive figure: his oratory is stumbling. But he is personally respected and liked in Ghana. His five years in power have provided a stability, and he seems firmly in the saddle.

The basic tenet of his political philosophy is self-reliance, and he takes great pride in his Operation Feed Yourself, which has reduced Ghana's dependence on imported food. The country's economic problems are far from solved but this seems to indicate a pointing in the right direction.



Another great asset lies in his justified claim to head a "government of reconciliation": he has made gestures to former Nkrumah supporters and brought others from previous regimes back into public life, even some Busia men. He is strongly against ethnic divisions. The billboards repeatedly proclaim: "One nation, one people, one destiny."

Though General Acheampong has and exercises powers of detention, there is little visible sign in Ghana of oppression. Trade unions and the press are more free than in most African states. Ghanaians do not hesitate to state emphatically their opinions.

What of the future? Is there any chance of the soldiers again returning to their barracks? General Acheampong has said that Ghanaians should look into their own traditions to find some system of representative government that would work better than Westminster-style party politics. He has appointed a committee to hear public ideas. He talks of "union government", but it is far from clear yet what he means by the term. There seems little doubt that the military would continue to play a part of some sort in any future set-up. The debate is just beginning. Some intellectuals have pointed to tribal tradi-

by Alan Rake

"L'Afrique est mal partie" (Africa got off on the wrong foot), said René Dumont. In his book, which became the bible of modern development thinking, he shows how almost all newly independent African nations rushed pell mell into industrialization, mechanization and other allurements of western society and ignored their basic agriculture.

Nowhere in Africa is the Dumont message clearer than in Ghana. Ghana was the pride and joy of its worldwide friends when it became free in 1957. Kwame Nkrumah inherited a united country with a viable economy, good balance of payments and strong foreign exchange reserves.

But Nkrumah, for all his political stature, was not an economist. While President Houphouët-Boigny in the neighbouring Ivory Coast, starting with less physical endowments than Ghana, produced the Ivorian economic miracle, Nkrumah lived according to his political philosophy and sought the political kingdom first.

What economic strategy he had was in the same mould as his political nationalism. He vigorously pursued an economic nationalism long before Ghana was strong or experienced enough to turn it to its own advantage.

For example, his establishment of a weak cedi, unattached to any major trading currency, was a fatal mistake which is the root cause of many of Ghana's endemic problems today. Because Ghanaians have no respect for their own currency almost every substantial citizen is striving to get foreign exchange and hold it in a foreign bank account. Ghanaian farmers smuggle their cocoa and even basic foodstuffs into the hard currency, CFA franc-linked countries next door. Ghanaian manufacturers smuggle out their textiles and household goods.

Although successive Ghanaian governments since Nkrumah have set up the most complex and painstakingly administered exchange control system in Africa, the people will always find a way round the regulations until they develop respect for their own currency. And this will come only when the economy is sound and is seen to be so.

It would be churlish to blame Nkrumah entirely on his currency mistake. His economic nationalism led him to argue that if Africa concentrated on agriculture then its people would remain the hewers of wood and the drawers of water. He said that the route to economic salvation lay in rapid industrialization.

However, experience has taught that the countries which followed Nkrumah along that path ended with a series of badly run, over-protected industries, dependent heavily on foreign imports of raw materials and spare parts which almost invariably made losses and caused a continual drain on foreign exchange. Nor did industrialization do much to help solve unemployment problems.

Ghana's balance of trade situation remains precarious. There are periods, such as the early 1970s and last year, in which exports surge forward on the back of high cocoa prices and bring in massive surpluses. But imports have a tendency to rise as fast and in bad years like 1974 they actually outstrip exports substantially. 1974 was the year in which Ghana's imports nearly doubled from 526m cedis to 944m cedis.

The year 1976-77 should show a massive rise in cocoa earnings, which traditionally account for more than 60 per cent of Ghana's total exports. Though the crop is expected to fall from approximately 390,000 tons to 350,000 tons, the cocoa price will double from an average selling price of £500 a ton to an estimated £1,200 or more. This should mean that cocoa earnings rise from £234m to £400m. And total exports should be a record.

But these earnings would be far higher if Ghana's cocoa production had not been in steady decline since Nkrumah's days. This season's crop, the lowest since 1959, confirms the underlying trend caused by neglect and smuggling. Although General Acheampong's government has raised producer prices, Ghanaian farmers are still being paid less than those in surrounding hard-currency

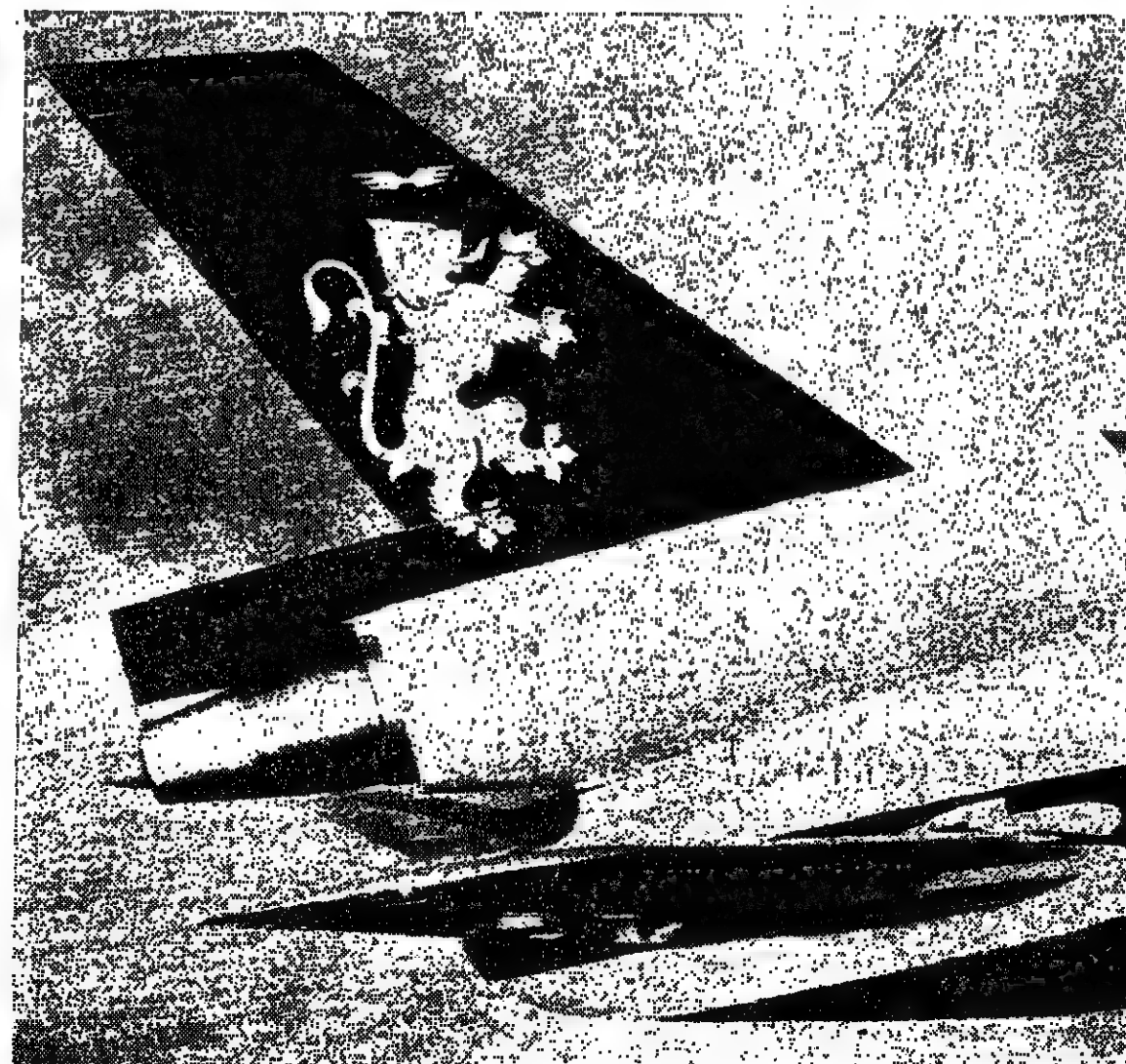
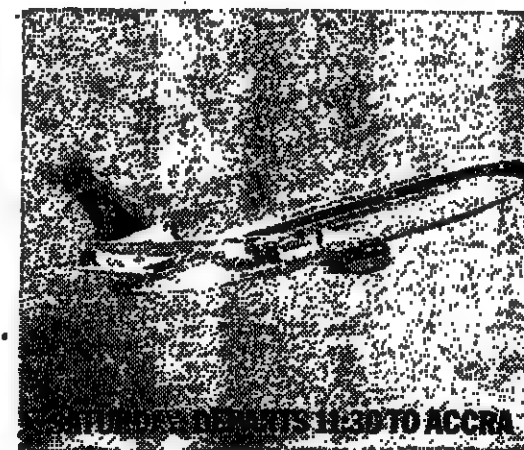
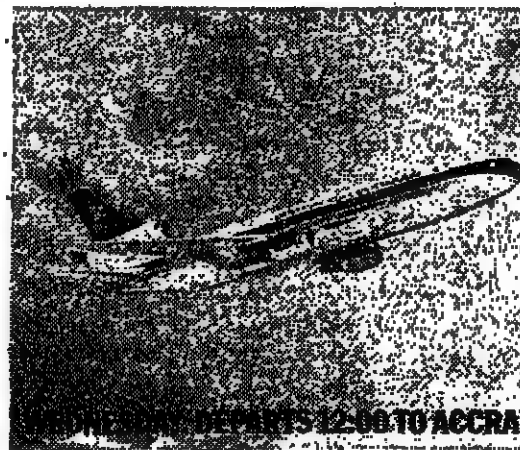
farms and industries brought

Management was minimal

When Nkrumah was toppled he left many great achievements. Among them was the best educational system in Africa at the time (the free universal primary education that Nigeria is achieving now was established in Ghana in 1962). He built an advanced network of communications, some of the best urban African housing, the Tema port and freeway and the Volta dam, which has completely confounded his critics by its original cheapness and sustained utility. But his economic management was minimal, despite the fact that he could draw on the best trained, most experienced civil servants and managers in Africa. His prestige construction projects, his badly run state farms and industries brought

continued on next page

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Foreign policy based on non-alignment...

by Kenneth MacKenzie

One of the first things the Acheampong regime did when it seized power in 1972 was to repudiate ideas that the Busia Government had entertained for a dialogue with Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister. Any contact with the white regime would compromise Ghana's relations with the rest of Africa, it was said.

General Acheampong also announced from the start that his foreign policy would be based on non-alignment and positive neutrality, phrases that recalled the Nkrumah days, as did the emphasis on relations with other African states.

The first result of his policy was the reestablishment of formal relations with China, which had been broken after the 1966 coup. Teams were also sent to the Soviet Union and East Europe to strengthen or reestablish relations there.

A number of aid projects which were broken off in 1966 have been reactivated. Russian plans to set up an atomic reactor project at Kwabena are to be revived, for instance, and a Russian agricultural team recently visited the country.

General Acheampong is not anti-West: he maintains excellent relations with Europe and the United States and receives substantial aid.

There was some difficulty in 1972 when he repudiated some of the Busia Government's debts, but that has been resolved. He takes a pragmatic view of foreign relations, rather than an ideological one.

He has close relations with the Arab states, for instance, from which he is receiving massive support for the building of a new dam on the Volta river at Kpong. Out of solidarity with them he broke off relations with Israel, but there are now moves to reopen contact.

On African relations he said in an interview in

1973: "My belief in pan-Africanism is total and absolute. You will notice I have built my philosophy around self-reliance. I do not see this only in terms of my country. I see it in continental terms. ... What I hope to do is to join other leaders of Africa in thinking anew the methods by which we will bring to realization the ideals of unity."

A testing of this spirit of cooperation will come later this year over the proposed Economic Community of West African States (or Ecowas). The idea for this was put forward two years ago and in July the introductory period ends. The 15 member states will then be obliged to take concrete steps within a year to reduce discriminatory import duties, harmonize tariff policies and prepare for the full operation of a common market in the region.

Ghana has repeatedly expressed its commitment to the plan, but there are enormous difficulties to be overcome. The collapse in

the past weeks of the East African common market cannot have been an encouragement.

In the five years he has been in power, General Acheampong has only restored out of Ghana in order to go to Lomé, Togo (just across the border) in connection with Ecowas. Presumably the memory of coups during the absence abroad of Dr Nkrumah and Dr Busia invites caution.

It is ironic that Togo should have had the honour of a visit, for it is on such bad terms with Ghana that the two are no longer speaking to each other. The main reason is the huge volume of smuggling of cocoa and other goods that goes on across the border to Ghana's serious economic disadvantage. Togo does little to stop it.

There is also the fact that there are Ewe people on both sides of the border, and there has always been a faction which wants either the ceding of some Ghana territory to Togo or the set-

ting up of a separate Ewe state. This is most strongly opposed by the Ghana authorities.

Finally, the recent big treason trial in Ghana followed an alleged Ewe plot against the regime, and the man who is said to have led the conspiracy escaped capture and is reported to be living unhindered in Lomé.

Ghana works hard at international affairs. On Rhodesia, for instance, General Acheampong has already this year entertained at Accra Mr Nkomo and Mr Sichele, who urged them to unite; had consultations with President Kaunda; sent a message to Mr Callaghan criticizing Britain's stand; urged international oil companies to halt supplies to Rhodesia; and asked members of the Organization of African States to work for stiffer sanctions.

It is perhaps a measure of Ghana's place on the periphery of things that the net effect on Rhodesia of this activity seems likely to be minimal.

Shortly before independence 20 years ago a senior British official in Ghana was quoted by *The Times* as saying: "Our object is to bring about self-government in the atmosphere of a coming-of-age party, not of the divorce courts."

The phrase has a paternalistic edge that would not, one hopes, be heard today, but it also expresses the close, almost-family ties that have always existed between the people of Ghana and the people of Britain who have had any contact with them.

Mr Harold Macmillan, who started his wind-of-change Africa tour in Ghana in 1960, spoke then of the "real affection" between the two countries.

Later this month the Prince of Wales will almost certainly be surprised by the warmth of the welcome he receives during his eight-day visit to the country. The fact that he is making the visit, with the main purpose of attending the fifteenth anniversary celebrations of the remarkable Achimota Col-

lege, near Accra, is an indication of the esteem in which Ghana is now held in Britain.

There have, of course, been moments of strain over the past 20 years. Immediately after independence there was great concern in Britain about Dr Nkrumah's use of his powers of deportation. A storm blew up over his refusal to admit a British QC, Mr Christopher Shawcross, to the country to allow him to defend two British journalists accused of contempt of court in Kumasi.

Another crisis came just before the Queen's visit to Ghana in 1961. In the months before the visit, Dr Nkrumah had taken into detention hundreds of his opponents. Some bombs had exploded in Accra. The President had suddenly dismissed his British Chief of Staff, General H. T. Alexander, because he said he wished to expedite the Africanization of the Army. (There had also been some disagreements about operations in Congo, and

General Alexander was deeply disturbed by the President's plans to send some officers for training in Russia.)

All this caused some British MPs and newspapers to express fears about whether the safety of the Queen could be assured during the proposed visit. In the end the British Government sent Mr Duncan Sandys out to Accra to investigate and have talks with President Nkrumah.

He reported in favour of the visit, which took place amid great enthusiasm and with no untoward incident. Prince Charles will meet many people who have the happiest memories of that visit.

The immediate aftermath of the 1972 coup was another difficult time, mostly because of the Acheampong regime's decision to repudiate many of the international debts of the Busia Government—it claimed the debts were entered into corruptly. However, a meeting with the debtor nations in

Rome about two years later led to an agreement on new terms and normal relations were resumed.

In a written answer to one of a number of questions submitted by a correspondent of *The Times* to General Acheampong last year, the Head of State said: "Relations between Ghana and the United Kingdom can be classified as very warm. We are now strengthening co-operation in the economic and cultural fields and I am sure that in the months ahead such cooperation will be deepened even further."

The only point of difference recently has been over the best way to deal with the Rhodesian question.

The latest sign of the improvement in relations has been the formation last month of an all-party Anglo-Ghanaian parliamentary group at Westminster. Lord Listowel, the last Governor-General of Ghana before the declaration of a republic in 1960, is president.

K.M.

Cocoa loses ground despite official aid schemes

by Susan Morgan

Ghana has long enjoyed the position of being the world's greatest exporter of cocoa and the country that produces the best quality cocoa. The crop accounts for about 62 per cent of its exports and 33 per cent of local revenue.

With world prices soaring past £2,000 per tonne Ghana would seem to be perfectly placed to do well on the world cocoa market and earn much-needed foreign

exchange. Unfortunately, however, production has dropped by as much as 60,000 tons this year and there are also reports that some has already been sold forward. Thus the country will not be able to benefit as much as it might have.

Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board officials say they will be lucky to produce 350,000 tons this year, a drop from 388,000 tons last year. Other experts estimate this year's crop at about 330,000 tons.

That state of affairs has a variety of causes, many

inherited from previous regimes. Among them are bad management, lack of systematic replanting, low producer prices to farmers, old age of both trees and farmers, and bad weather (principally lack of rain and rain at the wrong time).

Some of these difficulties have their roots well in the past. Such is the case of an incurable cocoa disease called swollen shoot. During the Busia administration government control was stopped and the disease spread rapidly. Even now it

affects some 18 per cent of the trees.

The present Government's emphasis on Operation Feed Yourself and self-sufficiency has caused cocoa production to lose some of its prestige and many farmers have turned to domestic food staples such as maize or tomatoes. Such crops, particularly maize, often prove more remunerative. Not only do they take a much shorter time growing (a cocoa tree matures at about nine years old), but the Government pays only 20 cedis for a 72lb load of cocoa.

The results of these and other setbacks to cocoa production has left most production in the hands of old farmers and that is causing the Government considerable concern. Many young people are turning to other branches of farming or leaving the land altogether.

The old age of the trees is also worrying. The Government has various replanting schemes, but those will take between five and 10 years to mature. Ghana's competitor for land and labour, Ivory Coast, which produces about half the amount Ghana does, is geared to double production in 10 years' time and hopes to overhaul Ghana.

Cocoa Marketing Board estimates that about a quarter of the cocoa production is affected by the most serious of the pests, capsids.

Smuggling is not confined to insecticides. Cocoa itself is smuggled to the extent of about 5 per cent of Ghanaian production, anything between 10,000 and 20,000 tons. The anti-smuggling campaign known as Operation Counterpoint, has had only limited success. The traffic is due to the low producer price for cocoa in Ghana; smugglers can obtain four or five times as much money across the border.

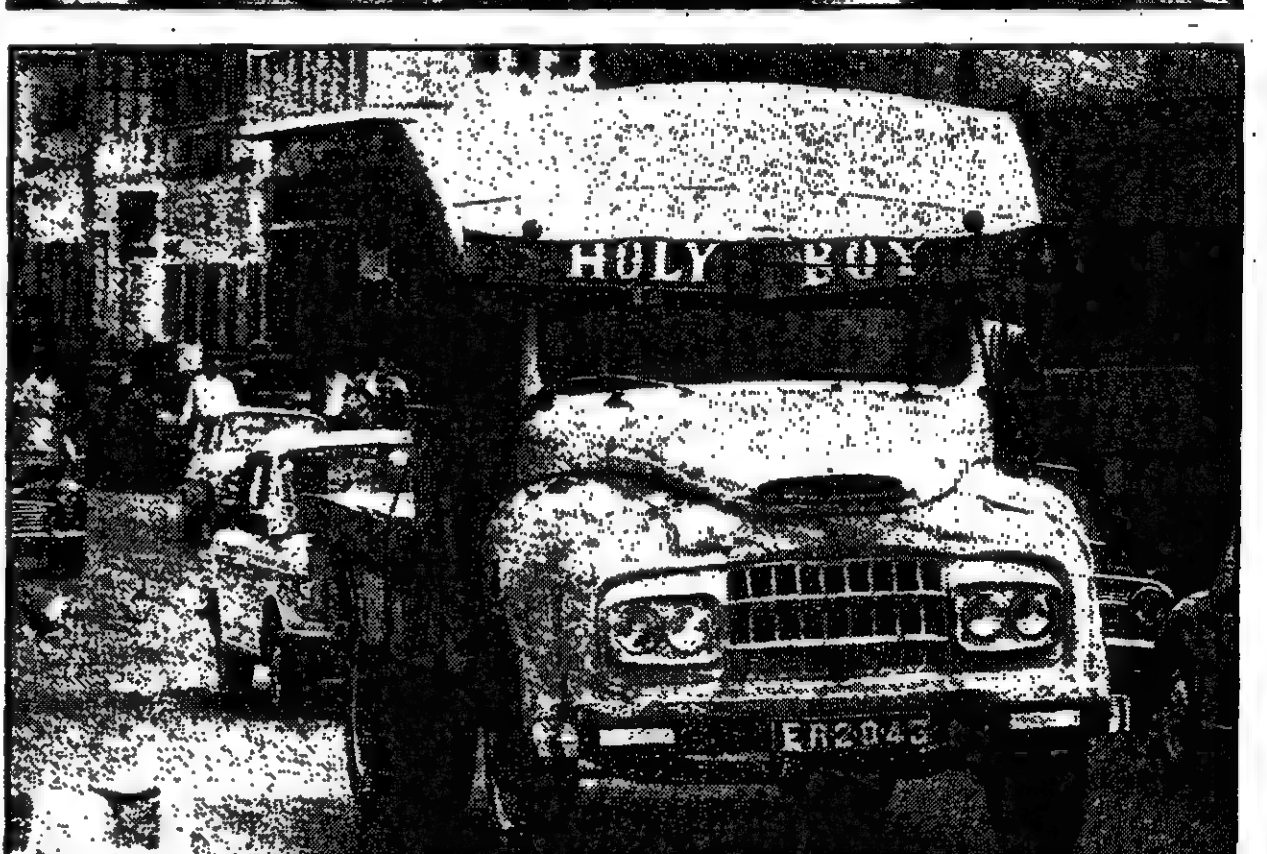
Government improvements include cocoa rehabilitation schemes and credit facilities. Four hundred cedis a hectare is available for four annual applications of fertilizer, capcid control and brushing. The period for repayment is 13 years, with no interest payable in the first four years. Four thousand farmers have benefited so far.

Since 1972 a total of 3,480 hectares of cocoa have been replanted. Existing cocoa rehabilitation during the same period is 9,000 hectares.

Other important projects include a cocoa research station at Tafo and two World Bank rehabilitation projects, one in Eastern Region and the other in Ashanti.

The Eastern Region project covers 60,000 hectares. It provides credit for the rehabilitation of 20,430 hectares of mature cocoa and the planting of 14,400 hectares of new farms. All new farms are planted with new hybrids (improved yielding) and about 5,500 farmers are expected to benefit from the project. It has also been decided to establish a plantation farm, not only to increase production but also to serve as model farms.

The Ashanti project aims to help in the replanting of 16,500 hectares. Other efforts by the Government to improve cocoa production include providing feeder roads to make farms accessible, a new bank to provide seasonal advances to cocoa farmers, and free cocoa seedlings for farmers.



Tradition wearing a homely and august face. Above: a battered truck, the original "holy roller", in Accra. Top: Otumfuo Opeku Ware II, Supreme Chief of Ashanti, surrounded by his courtiers.

Country weakened by ambition

continued from preceding page

territories and as long as this situation persists smuggling, sometimes on a massive scale, will continue. At the end of 1976 the Ghana cocoa farmers' producer price was equivalent to £390 a metric ton, Nigeria's £571 and the Ivory Coast £768.

But the Ghana Government simply does not have the cash available from budgetary sources for an increase of this scale. So it would be able to pay the farmers only by bank borrowing which has already reached a level to cause inflationary problems, or by devaluation of the cedi which would also be inflationary and politically unacceptable (as the prime factor which caused the collapse of the Busia Government in 1971).

Ghana's achievements in food production, through Operation Feed Yourself, launched in 1972, has been far more commendable. For the Government has abandoned Nkrumah's loss-making capital intensive state farms and has concentrated on incentives for the smallholders who produce 90 per cent of agricultural output. It has given them subsidized inputs, low interest loans from the Agricultural Development Bank and high guaranteed prices for rice and cotton.

such a success, was the food import bill 140m cedis in 1974 and 105m cedis in 1975? And why is the price index of local food increasing at an immense 63 per cent a year?

His answer was partly the two years of bad weather and partly that "certain countries I would not like to name are sharing the food with us". He referred to smuggling on a massive scale into Upper Volta and Togo of basic foodstuffs as well as the traditional cocoa.

Kwame Nkrumah did leave Ghana with a good economic base. The roads he built and the Akosombo dam have proved their worth many times. And most of the industries which started under his regime are still running, giving Ghana one of the most comprehensive light industry structures in Africa.

Nowadays the industries are better managed and they strive to make profits. But the big problem, in almost every factory, is shortage of foreign exchange even to pay for basic raw materials and spare parts. Most factories are not working at capacity simply because they do not have the licences to import essential items. A typical example is the egg and poultry business which is short of basic animal foodstuffs, resulting in low production and prices of chickens and eggs rising three times in the past two years.

Ghanaian inflation which has been running at an official rate of more than 40 per cent since 1975 and at more than 50 per cent since the middle of 1976 is now of Latin American proportions. Inflation is linked to world inflation levels (running at more than 20 per cent) but has also been caused internally because the Government has been borrowing extensively from the Bank of Ghana to finance development expenditure. If the Government were to pursue a policy of retrenchment this would depress the economy, create a negative rate of growth and high unemployment, which would simply be unacceptable in Ghana today.

The trouble is that Ghanaians have developed a taste for high living, for western goods and standards and for an advanced way of life. This taste had been acquired even in colonial times and has never been held in check by Nkrumah or any government that has succeeded him. The Ghanaians, like the British, are not keen to give up the easy life and compete.

Farm units of only one and a half acres

The pattern of land tenure also affects Ghanaian production. Some farms have been reduced through inheritance to units as small as one and a half acres. Absentee landlords, who have bought up bankrupt farms, are another obstacle. The Government is trying to buy these farms back because the lack of adequate supervision by these owners is causing a drop in production.

In order to combat pests and disease the Government subsidizes insecticides and makes them available to farmers. But in some cases insecticides are smuggled out of the country before they reach the farms, and there is also a shortage of sprayer guns. The Ghana

among these are a lack of foreign reserves with which to buy vital capital equipment and machinery such as tractors, combine harvesters and all important spare parts and also animal foodstuffs.

Exacerbating this problem is the import licensing system, an attempt to husband precious foreign reserves. The system has been abused and not enough licences are available for vital imports. In addition the system has led to severe delays in supplies of machinery and spare parts. It is hoped that the new monitoring system recently established for the import licensing system will improve matters.

The State Farms Corporation has blamed its slow development on a shortage of working capital and the import licensing system. Spiralling prices of vitally needed imports and the unfavourable exchange rate have created further trouble. Thus the corporation reports that total acreage of crops planted fell between 1975 and 1976 from 5,630 acres to 3,860 acres.

A secondary phase of OFY is Operation Feed Yourself, an attempt to increase production of raw materials such as oil seeds and cottonseed. Ghana's soap and textile industries respectively and which can be produced easily

Drive for food self-sufficiency loses some impact

in Ghana. Production of both these crops and others such as rubber is increasing, but it is still too early to assess the success of this programme with any accuracy.

Cotton production in the north is proving both successful and profitable but still about 90 per cent of Ghana's cotton is imported. Because of their low operational costs, plantation crops such as oil palm, citrus, cashew and rubber are being emphasized.

New crops such as soybeans and sunflowers are also being introduced. Mr Williams Baffo, Director of Agriculture, spoke of the export of tropical fruits and vegetables such as pineapples, avocado pears and papayas as well as tomatoes and citrus fruits.

The lack of adequate trunk and feeder roads from farms to markets is probably the chief obstacle to agricultural development. All Ghanaians refer to the problems of fruit rotting on the trees in the growing areas while in the capital, Accra, there are high prices and even shortages. Five big projects to improve the existing road network should ease this problem considerably.

The Government is concerned about the high market prices and excessive profits made on locally-

produced foodstuffs. Domestic food prices are a big contributory cause to rising inflation which is now more than 60 per cent. To curb such abuses the Government has decreed that certain food staples may be sold only in government shops at controlled prices.

Another aim is to cut out the middlemen, as many as four or five, between the farmer and the consumer. This is being combatted by forming associations among producers of different crops and providing storage facilities and selling direct to the public.

As well as transport inadequacies the lack of farm machinery is serious. "We could do with 200 to 300 more tractors", Mr Baffo said. It was because of the shortage of combine harvesters that much of this year's rice crop was not harvested. Instead, a substantial proportion (up to 50 per cent according to one newspaper report but probably lower) was left and much of it burnt through bush fires.

Smuggling of crops such as rice and other cash crops across the borders is another difficulty the country faces.

The exodus of young Ghanaians from the land is a cause of great concern to the Government which is attempting to put a brake on it by providing incentives, a

mainly through cash crops. However, such incentives have not yet had any marked success in preventing the steady exodus of young people seeking white-collar jobs in urban centres.

Livestock production is a government priority both to improve the Ghanaian diet and the balance of payments (in 1974 28m cedis were spent on milk and meat imports). A newspaper article said recently that it was "a somewhat neglected area of our green revolution".

The amount of capital outlay needed to build up the Ghanaian cattle herd is proving difficult but progress is being made. The chief difficulties revolve around trying to improve the native breed of West African short-horn while retaining its resistance to endemic diseases such as trypanosomiasis. Big cattle herds are situated in Akatsi, Otiwa (Volta Region), a new ranch in the Northern Region, Kwamansoso in the Eastern Region as well as a private project in the Accra Plains, developed by an Australian, which is doing very well.

The Bank of Ghana's herd is also being overseen by an Australian. Although the Ghana Cattle Development Board was set up to develop livestock it is now acting as a marketing organization

authorized to import beef. There is also a World Bank project of cattle raising at Tadzewa. Livestock production has suffered as a whole because of rising costs of animal feed, maize and other concentrates.

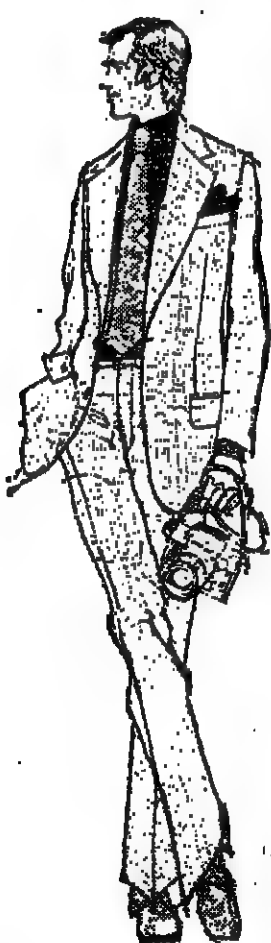
There are other livestock projects, notably pigs (the Dawhenya piggery has an average stock of 600 pigs and there are plans to increase production).

About 80 per cent of the country's protein requirements are met by fish which is cheap and acceptable in all Ghanaian homes. Inshore fishing and traditional fishing methods are proving insufficient to meet the country's fish consumption which has soared, largely because of a fall in meat imports from Sahel countries, after the drought.

There is overfishing in inland waters. I counted 40 dug-out canoes, the traditional fishing craft, fishing in a very small area. A significant development in Ghana's fishing industry is the Ghanaian State Fishing Corporation which merged with Ghana Cold Stores. At present it has only eight trawlers and plans to acquire more. The country is negotiating to acquire fishing rights in Senegal and in Angola.

S.M.

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مكتبة القاهرة

Where dishonesty proves profitable

by Patrick Gilkes

"Smuggling is a way of life," a senior civil servant said. "And if we don't smuggle we profiteer."

How many really are involved in anyone's guess but hoarding, profiteering and smuggling have certainly been officially identified as three of Ghana's main enemies. As General Acheampong said bitterly in February, Ghana seems much sicker at feeding its neighbours than itself. Figures are naturally hard to come by but there is growing public concern at the scale of the graft. One newspaper recently went so far as to have front-page banner headlines: "Does honesty pay in Ghana?" The conclusion of the article was that it did not seem to.

The Government has tried

hard to prevent hoarding and profiteering where it hurts most—in the market place. With last year's special commodity decree a number of basic commodities, among them milk, soap, sugar and toothpaste, were removed to specific retail outlets with controlled prices. This move was specifically aimed at the market mamas who were the ones most often accused of profiteering.

The change has had some success. Supplies have been kept down and prices have been obtained through the necessity for long queuing has created a new job category, that of the professional queuer. But attempts to extend this system recently to control of flour and baking have not been so successful. The attempt high lights the difficulty of any such system. Flour can now be bought only by licensed retailers and bakers and the amount is supposed to

depend on the previous month's usage.

A list of the licensed dealers has been issued, but many on the list are not traders in flour or bakers; they nevertheless go and collect their allowance and then sell it to friends or other traders. As a result much of the flour passes through many hands before reaching the public, the price rising considerably. Bread is also getting scarce in Accra in the wake of this move.

Recently Accra was hit by a severe shortage of matches. The manager of the match factory claimed that he could not understand it—the factory was working at full production and not a day had been lost. The match factory in neighbouring Togo had closed down and within 24 hours, that's where all our matches had gone. They had been smuggled over the border.

The Government then tried to limit match sales to

a packet a customer. Traders simply dispatched all their friends and relations to buy up single packets until stocks were exhausted. The matches then appeared in the markets at higher prices.

The "notorious" market mamas are usually blamed for these sorts of manoeuvres but not always fairly. They will certainly take their cut but often the commodities have gone through several hands first.

Most of these goods go out in fairly small lots or wish individuals. Much more serious are the well organized big gangs responsible for the large-scale smuggling of cocoa, rice and timber, for example, the latter carried by motor transport. They are well enough organized to switch from product to product as demands change and they operate on a large scale.

In one case that came to light last year 12 articulated lorries loaded with sawn timber and plywood were stopped on the Togo border. Smuggling on this scale hardly deserves the name, so open is it. Smugglers of cocoa are as blatant.

Already this season on more than one occasion lorries belonging to the Government's cocoa authority, the Cocoa Marketing Board, have been observed heading across the Ivorian border fully laden. It is estimated that between 20,000 and 30,000 tons will disappear into the Ivory Coast this year, most of it in this barely concealed way. Cocoa farmers, like rice farmers, simply are not paid enough by the Government to make it worth their while to sell to government outlets. Even if the Government does increase its buying prices—as with rice which this year was raised from 15.5 to 30 cedis a bag—inflation eats away any advantages there might be.

The main cocoa smuggling area used to be the Togo border, but this year it looks as if only about 3,000 tons will go that way and all carried as headloads by individual operators. The big boys have all moved over to the Ivorian side across the country. This at least shows that the Government's main anti-smuggling operation, operation counterpoint, along the Togo border, has had some success. The operation has netted hundreds of smugglers and is still going on.

Its sixth phase was launched by the Commissioner of Information on February 9 when he drew attention to some of the Government's measures in combating smuggling such as the special commodities decree and the payment of informers. But significantly that same week at Aflao, only a kilometre from the Togo border the police found it necessary to close down all the food stores,

the record and drug shops and the textile stores.

The Government has failed to compete with the smugglers for the loyalty of the border guards. The badly paid. It is widely known that they cooperate with smugglers and take pay-offs. The kickbacks are simply believed to pass up the chain of command to their superiors. Even the frequent transfer of border guards which is one of the Government's main weapons to close off border points to smugglers is believed to be merely a method of allowing all members of the force to share in the payments received from smugglers.

It is not just at remote border crossings that there are problems. At the end of January 143 customs officials were transferred from the main entry points of Accra airport and Tema harbour. Most significantly many of them were also

moved from the head office in Accra as well. The move was called streamlining but the head of the customs announced that he had warned his men against corruption and taking bribes. One cynic suggested that they were transferred not for taking bribes but because they had been remiss in spreading the profits.

It seems almost impossible to stop either smuggling or profiteering—whether or not the constant rumours of high-level participation are true. Prices paid to farmers do not reflect world prices nor are they sufficiently large enough. The CFA franc remains a far more valuable currency than the cedi. With inflation the rate is and with frequent shortages whether induced or not the opportunities for making a profit are apparently just too much to resist. Most Ghanaians do not even try.

River project is national showpiece



The Volta River Project deserves its place as one of the showpieces of Ghanaian development. The Akosombo dam site is reached in about two hours from Accra. The slow moving Volta river to one of its narrowest points. One travels through wooded gorges to reach the site. The word Volta means "to meander", and this it does.

This site was chosen because of the relative narrowness of the gorge at this point, even though the river has been swollen by the confluence of the White, the Red and the Black Volta (where hippopotamuses still live), and by the entry of the Akro and the Oti. A second reason for the choice lies in its proximity to the bauxite deposits at Mponese in Kwahu. The project aims essentially at producing the electric power necessary to transform bauxite into aluminium.

This project still absorbs some 70 per cent of the total energy output of the dam. In addition this cheap source of power is much in demand by other mines—gold, manganese and diamond—as well as for domestic consumption and even export to neighbouring Togo and Benin. Exports of energy to Upper Volta represent another future project. The availability of this cheap source of energy has revitalized and encouraged industrial

growth throughout southern Ghana.

The production of cheap and plentiful energy is the fundamental but not the only benefit to result from the Volta River Project. By damming the river, the world's largest man-made lake (surface area, not volume) has been created. Just 250 miles long and enclosing 3,275 sq miles of area, it has enhanced the possibilities for water transport. The river has long been used as a highway, and is increasingly used for convenience and cheapness.

Fish is one of the most important sources of protein in Ghana. Fish production is considerable in the fresh water lake, and schemes are under way to increase this. There are also plans to irrigate the surrounding areas and improve agricultural potential. Ghana has suffered badly from drought in the past two years. A further project is that of building another smaller dam at Kpong, a few miles downstream from Akosombo to produce more hydroelectric power, consumption of which is increasing fast.

Plans for developing the Akosombo site date back to 1915, as a means then as now of developing aluminium from local bauxite by electric power. The project finally got under way only after independence when negotiations with the United Kingdom had broken down.

It was at this stage in 1958 that Dr Nkrumah, the

Ghanaian Prime Minister, visited the United States and succeeded in enlisting the help. The Americans promised to put up half the necessary money on condition that an American consultant, Kaiser Engineers, re-appraised the project. They were also asked to form an aluminium company to consume most of the power and so justify the project.

Work on the dam began finally in 1962, an Italian consortium Impregilo having won the construction contract. A mere three years later power was first produced on a commercial basis. The cost of the power scheme after completion was about 145,040,000 cedis. The maximum generating capacity of Akosombo, has been raised to 912 megawatts after the addition of two more generating units in 1962, bringing the total of such units to six. After the main consumers—Velco, the aluminium smelter, and the mines—the Electricity Corporation of Ghana uses power produced there to serve the southern part of Ghana through a national transmission network of 808 km. Electric power is also exported to the republics of Togo and Benin at a rate of 25,000 kilowatts an hour. These two plans to double their consumption soon.

The energy crisis has provided a considerable incentive to Ghana to increase its production of hydroelectric power, which is much cheaper than conventional

thermal production methods. In addition the proliferation of industries attracted by a cheap power supply means that consumption is rising so rapidly that demand threatens to outstrip production in the next five to 10 years unless other sources of energy be made available.

In order to meet this increased demand a second project at Kpong is due to start this year. This project will be a 1,000 megawatt scheme than Akosombo and will produce about a sixth of the Akosombo dam's output, an official from the Volta River Authority told me.

Feasibility studies are being carried out with a firm of Canadian consultants with a grant from the Canadian International Development Agency. According to the same official a consortium of Arab banks has already put up \$70m.

The European Development Fund and the European Investment Bank are also reportedly funding this project. Tenders for the civil construction of the project have already apparently gone out. Sweden, France, Germany and Italians are competing, among them the same Italian consortium which built Akosombo, but no tender has yet been accepted. It is hoped that the project will show results by 1980-81, or else a Ghanaian explained: "We may have to import power from the Ivory Coast." This is something the Ghanaians with their independence would rather avoid.

Other schemes arising from the Volta River Project involve proposed irrigation of the Accra and Afram plains for the production of food for local consumption and cash crops. The possibilities of expanding fish production are being closely studied, and the outlook seems promising. Already the yearly catch from the lake is between 45,000 and 60,000 tons a year. Among the best varieties of fish found in the lake are mudfish, Tilapia, and finest of all the Nile perch. One caught recently was reported to have weighed 300 lb.

Water transport is another interesting project. There has been a considerable increase in the volume of two-way traffic. A pilot transport system is operating and a commercial transport company has been formed to operate on the lake. Already many people prefer travelling through Kpong and Kere Krachi in the Volta region to Yapei in the Northern Region rather than the long and expensive road journey from Accra to the north. Two crafts, the Akosombo Queen and the Ashanti Queen, operate on the lake, as do motor boats.

Other projects in the area associated with the Volta River Project include that of developing a pulp plant. A caustic soda project has also been suggested but plans for both are still on the drawing board.

S.M.

Radical change in education

The Ghanaian Government is making considerable efforts to improve and extend its health and education programmes. Ghana's public health service is recognized as one of the best in West Africa—though more still needs to be done in preventive medicine.

However, progress is being made in immunization, provision of drinking water and health education. The number of rural medical units has been increased and there is continual research into diseases like malaria and tuberculosis.

Ghanaian education has undergone a radical change since General Acheampong's government came to power. It involves correlating education with the needs of the country and employment prospects. This means more emphasis on practical and vocational training and less in the traditional academic bias of British education.

The Government is reintroducing Ghanaian languages in primary school. Perhaps the most basic aim of all is to bring more Ghanaian children into the school system and the Government has allocated 949,000 cedis to complete construction projects, which it is hoped, will greatly increase enrolment in primary and secondary schools.

In the past it has proved difficult to persuade teachers to work in outlying areas. To encourage training, particularly in the northern region, efforts are being made to increase the proportion of children entering secondary schools, at present only 17 per cent.

Courses in secondary schools concentrate on practical subjects—clerical skills, agriculture and commerce. The Government has allocated 4.5m cedis for vocational and technical training to dovetail curricula and work requirements more closely.

Science, mathematics and the acquisition of manual skills are also a priority for the same reasons. Sixty per cent of all secondary schools now teach clerical skills and bookkeeping. The establishment of the Ghana teaching service in 1973-74 helped in this practical orientation and rationalizing pre-university education.

The Government has allocated 2.3m cedis to improve teacher training facilities. Division is an attempt to produce middle-range specialists on which Ghana's

capped children for examination. At present there are 1,150 handicapped children in public education.

There are two interesting research projects under way. The first, in association with the Ghana Institute of Journalism, is finding out whether a children's newspaper made available throughout the country would improve the literacy rate, and the second involves using Piaget's experiments on Ghanaian children.

Adult education is also receiving attention and it is hoped that this will cause a fall in the illiteracy rate (believed to be more than 55 per cent). The Government's priorities for scientists, technologists, mathematicians and professionals with scientific training have resulted in substantial backlogs. There are also faculties of higher education.

The University of Cape Coast acquired full university status only in 1972. The University of Ghana (which has long enjoyed a close relationship with the University of London) has about 2,964 students in seven faculties, including science, medicine, agriculture, social sciences, the arts and law.

In Kumasi, faculties include agriculture, farm management, tropical horticulture and tropical forestry. To encourage training in agronomy, the Government has recently made 420,000 cedis available for agricultural research stations in universities.

There are also faculties of architecture, engineering, pharmacy, science and social sciences. The Technical School of Mining, now part of the University of Science and Technology, recently received a grant of 33,670 cedis.

The Department of Pharmacy in Kumasi is researching the possibilities of exploiting indigenous natural resources to produce pure and pharmaceuticals. Another interesting project is the establishment of a small-scale industries.

The technical education division is an attempt to produce middle-range specialists on which Ghana's

industrialization depends. Training takes place in both polytechnics and technical institutes.

Much remains to be done in combating disease, in sanitary conditions and in adequate diet. A particularly desirable development is the extension of the health service into rural areas through the installation of health posts—four or five of which are attached to one health centre.

Each post consists of a health centre superintendent, a midwife, two community health nurses, a microbiologist and a health inspector, as well as a government health service. Medical services are also provided in rural areas by various voluntary agencies.

In Ghana, as in many developing countries in Africa, infectious diseases represent the majority of hospitalizations and mortality—50 and 30 per cent respectively. Often, what would be a fairly minor disease in a healthy child can be a severe illness or indeed lead to death in an undernourished one. Thus a child with a severe case of measles complicated by pneumonia, gastroenteritis and malnutrition may in many cases not even be brought to a hospital because of distance.

Immunization has always proved a very effective weapon against these diseases—the difficulty in a country like Ghana is that it is expensive. In the late 1960s a campaign immunize against smallpox and measles was very effective. But if immunization against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and polio is to be undertaken it will prove costly as a fleet of well-equipped vehicles would be needed and children would have to be seen more than once a year.

The problems of covering the sparsely populated country are considerable and almost insurmountable in the rainy season. Another difficulty is the maintenance of a "cold chain", a system of keeping vaccines refrigerated all the way from their origin to their destination, which may be miles from a road.

Trials to overcome these problems are to form the basis of a nationwide immunization programme. Another immunization pilot project, involving community participation rather than an imposition of such a service, is taking place at Kintampo with assistance from several international organizations.

The technology consultancy group of Kumasi University is working with The World Health Organization on the cold chain project to develop a freezer and isothermic flask to be tested in the field before being produced locally. Local industry has shown great interest in developing such projects.

The technology consultancy group of Kumasi University is working with The World Health Organization on the cold chain project to develop a freezer and isothermic flask to be tested in the field before being produced locally. Local industry has shown great interest in developing such projects.

Diseases which the medical service is trying to control include malaria (which is widespread in Accra because of the inadequate sewerage system), tuberculosis (which is believed to affect about 80,000 people), onchocerciasis, yellow fever, sleeping sickness and yaws.

Other important health care programmes include mother and baby units (infant mortality has been reduced to still about 130 per 1,000 births); environmental control; and nutrition.

Family planning services are active in Ghana. They have had some success but are hampered by the traditional view that a woman acquires status if she has many children, while on the other hand children are looked on as extra hands. There is also the belief that some may die and it is better to have one or two extra just in case.

Basic health education is taught in schools and other centres through calendars. A calendar I saw included exhortations to boil water, to give children a proper breakfast, before sending them to school, and to wash hands before eating.

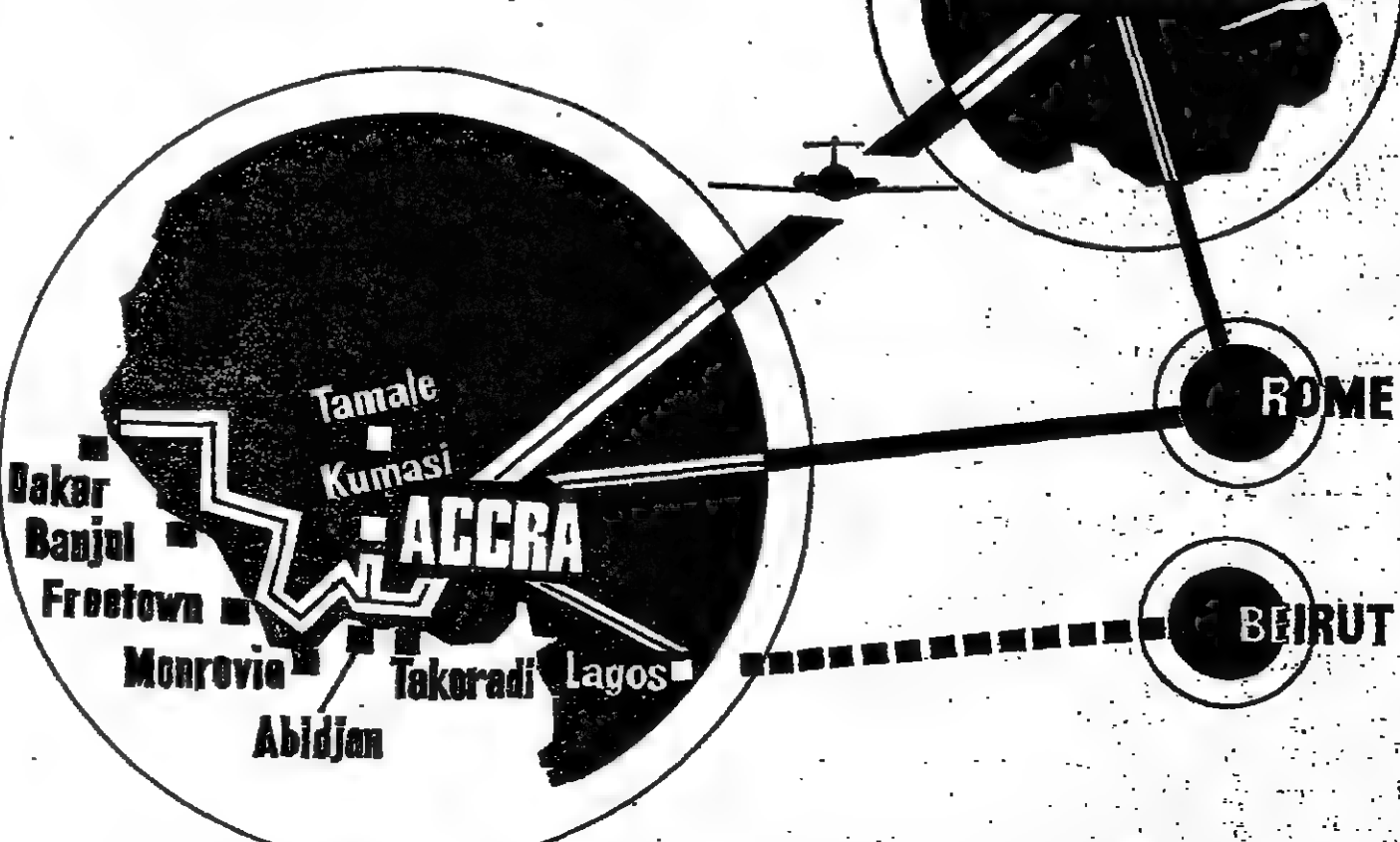
In order to man these programmes a growing number of doctors, nurses and other medical specialists are being trained. Many students come from other West African countries because Ghana has good facilities for training.

One aspect of medicine which seems to be ignored is dentistry: There are only 38 dentists in the health service; apparently most Ghanaians visit one only as a last resort.

S.M.

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GHANA 20

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Ghana became the first African State south of the Sahara to attain independence on March 6, 1957. This article reviews the achievements of the country during the 20 years of independence.

GHANA: 20 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

On 6th March, 1957, the Gold Coast was declared an independent State and was renamed Ghana after one of the ancient Sudanic Empires which flourished between the 4th and the 10th centuries.

Though the Gold Coast Colony came into existence in 1874, so reluctant was the British Government to increase its responsibilities that in spite of the pressure of the merchants and missionaries, Ashanti and the areas further north were left uncolonised. The British declared the North a protectorate in 1898 and Ashanti was conquered in 1901. As a result of economic, social and political developments, certain classes emerged which became increasingly conscious of the glaring absurdities, oppressiveness and limitations of the colonial regime and started political movements which agitated for participation in the administration of the country.

Consequently, there arose the need for a social change. More elementary and secondary schools as well as training colleges were opened over the years. This led to a corresponding increase in the number of the educated Africans who as civil servants, school teachers, etc., became less and less satisfied with their opportunities under the colonial administration.

Moreover, as there were limited facilities for university education until 1948, more and more people went to overseas particularly to Britain and the United States for further education. These scholars became more and more conscious of the vast difference in the political and social situations between their home country and their host countries. Some of them did not only study socialist and Marxist literature which condemned colonialism but also studied the techniques of modern party organisation and strategy. Joseph Smith and J. Hutton Brew, the first Secretary of the Fante Confederacy formed principally by the Chiefs of Abura and Anomabu, were the first of a long line of such nationalists who ended with Dr. J. B. Danquah and Dr. Kwame Nkrumah under whose leadership Ghana achieved self government.

The proclamation of Ghana as a Republic in July, 1960, led to many positive achievements. The country, though still an active member of the Commonwealth, initiated and participated in many Pan-African activities towards the decolonisation of Africa.

If Nkrumah had permitted a fair and open General Election to be held for the people's choice of government in 1964 and avoided many of the excesses of his regime, perhaps the incidence of military intervention would have been avoided. Instead, he proclaimed the country a one-party State and imposed Members of Parliament on many constituencies, in spite of the fact that open dissent had been smothering for some time.

SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS

There were many positive aspects of Dr Nkrumah's 15 years' rule, and these have led to his posthumous rehabilitation of body and name. It is in an attempt to unify and reconcile the nation that the Government of the Supreme Military Council has taken steps to rehabilitate Nkrumah who, whatever his faults, made significant contributions to Ghana's political and economic progress.

Kwame Nkrumah could rightly be called the chief protagonist of modern Pan-Africanism. In April 1958, the year after independence, he convened the first ever African Heads of State Conference which was followed by the formation of the Ghana-Guinea Union, with Mali joining later. In July 1959, he visited late President Tubman of Liberia with whom he issued a joint Declaration of Principles for African Unity.

Other conferences he convened and hosted in Ghana, included the All African People's Conference of all political organisations held in December 1958; the All African Trade Union Preparatory Conference in November 1959; and a conference on Positive Action for Peace and Solidarity in Africa to condemn racism in Africa and the French nuclear tests in the Sahara in April 1960.

Nkrumah put Ghana on the world map as the lodestar of African emancipation and renaissance. He also played a leading role in the formation of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

At home, he tried, perhaps too quickly and not without mistakes to achieve economic and social reconstruction so as to provide a higher standard of living for the people as well as a welfare

State based on a "socialist pattern of society adapted to Ghanaian conditions".

FREE-FREE EDUCATION

Between 1951 and 1956, the Convention People Party (CPP) Government introduced free education for all primary and middle school children—the first of its kind in Africa. It undertook the construction of infrastructure of bridges and trunk roads as well as feeder roads to facilitate transportation of food produced in the rural areas to the urban centres. The Government also provided a base for industrialisation; the construction of the Tema harbour; the formation of the Black Star Shipping Line; the provision of modern office buildings, schools, colleges, hotels, hospitals, dispensaries and health clinics; the establishment of a free medical service, that is, from the treatment of simple ailments to the most sophisticated surgical operation; the provision of good drinking water in some of the rural areas and establishment of a national airline.

After independence, many changes were made to reflect the Ghanaian traditional way of life. For example: law school was built to study laws relevant to the society. The cocoa industry was re-organised and cocoa disease control measures intensified. In 1958, Ghana introduced its own bank notes. The Ghana Commercial Bank had earlier been established to augment the operations of the two foreign banks, namely, Barclays Bank and the British Bank of West Africa (now Standard Bank) which had dominated banking operations for over half a century. The Bank of Ghana was established in 1957. A black American college mate of Dr. Nkrumah founded the State Insurance Corporation which is now the largest insurance organisation in the country.

The Civil Service and the Armed Forces were indigenised. The Cape Coast University, the third university, was built in 1962. Today, there are two medical schools in Accra and Kumasi.

With the assistance of a consortium of British, American, Canadian, Italian and Ghanaian capital and expertise, Kwame Nkrumah brought the gigantic Volta River hydro-electric project to realisation in 1966. Today, the Volta River Project supplies energy not only to Ghana but also two neighbouring countries, namely, the Republics of Togo and Benin.

However, all was not well with Ghana after 1960. Dr Nkrumah's Government was overthrown by the Armed Forces and the Police on 24th February, 1966.

NATIONAL LIBERATION COUNCIL

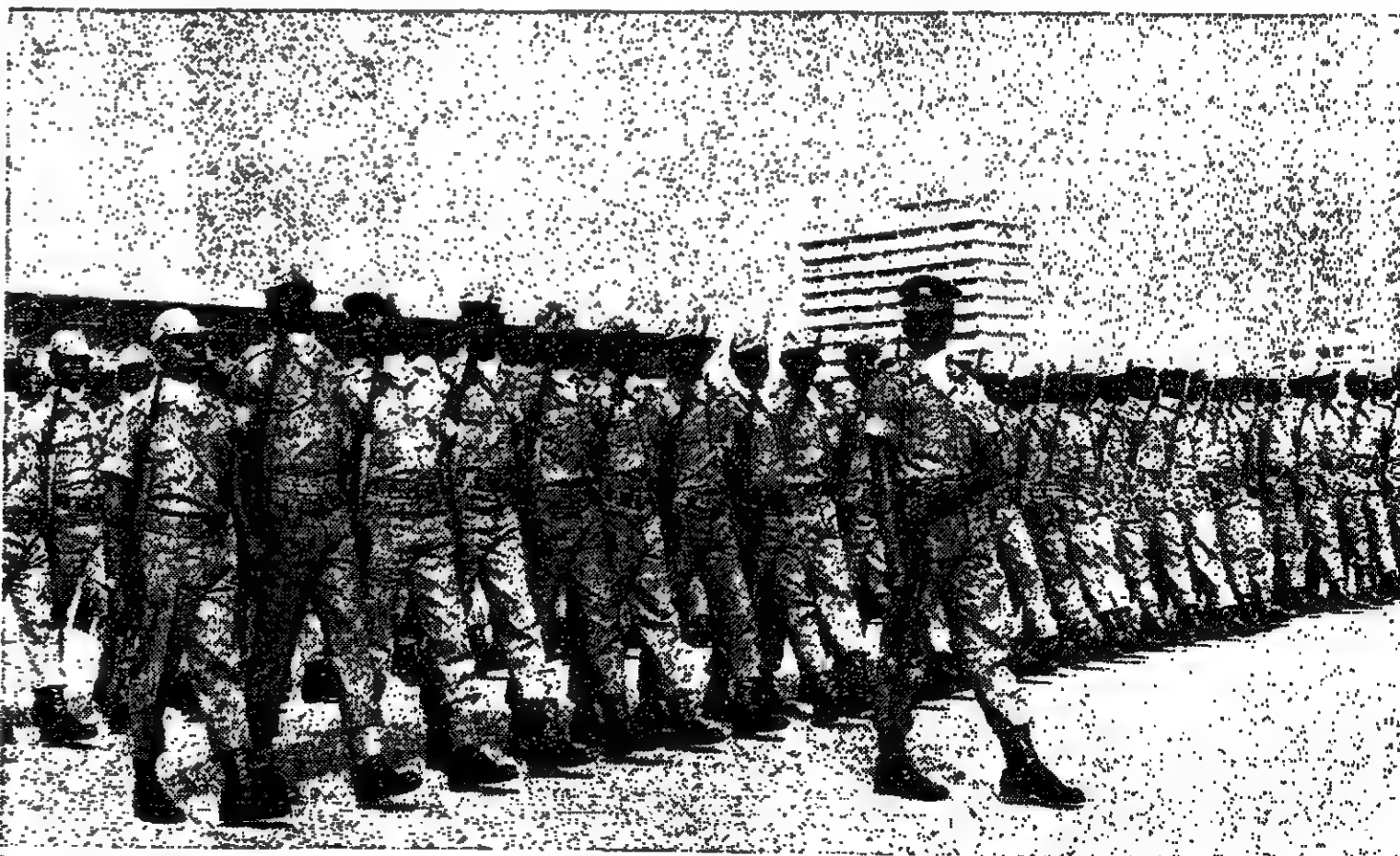
The post Nkrumah Army-cum-Police administration, that is, the National Liberation Council, true to its word, after three years in office, handed over power to an elected civilian government in October 1969. Under the Progress Party Government, with Dr. K. A. Busia as Prime Minister, Ghana's economic position worsened. The Government introduced a devaluation of the currency by almost 50% in December 1972. It therefore became evident that the Busia Government had no immediate and effective solutions to the economic problems of the country.

The Busia regime claimed to have run the country on Western democratic lines. However, he not only interfered with the judiciary but also has no regard for the rule of law. Busia was soon to dismiss the Editor of a State-owned newspaper, for criticising his policy of dialogue with South Africa.

The question of dialogue was then topical in Africa and the United Nations, especially when the British Prime Minister, Edward Heath, resumed the sale of arms to South Africa in contravention of the ban imposed by his predecessor. Ghana lost its honoured position as a frontline State in the struggle against colonialism and racism.

Colonel Ignatius Kutu Acheampong toppled the Busia regime after 27 months in office on 13th January, 1972. It was unexpected but not surprising. He set up the National Redemption Council, again composed of the Armed Forces and the Police. The Government was renamed the Supreme Military Council in October last year.

Under the Acheampong Government, Ghana has been playing her traditionally active and frontline role in Africa in concert with other members of the Organisation of African Unity. In this regard, the Government continues to support measures against apartheid and to give assistance to freedom movements in Zimbabwe and Namibia. Ghana's prominent role in the liberation struggle is clearly manifested by the number of nationalist leaders who have recently visited the country.



Gold Coast lives up to its name

by Susan Morgan

Ghana's former name, the Gold Coast, indicates how closely gold has been linked with its history. In the fifth and sixth centuries BC the Saracens and Phoenicians traded in gold dust on the West African coast and transported it by caravan to the Mediterranean.

In 1873 Pierre Bonnat, known as the father of gold mining, took out a concession in the Tarkwa area, and this began the mining of gold-bearing rock as it exists today.

At the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries a wave of speculation in gold ensued. Between 1898 and 1901 about

400 companies with a capital of some £40m were formed to work concessions. Though not one of them still exists, gold and industrial diamonds together account for 80 per cent of Ghana's mineral production today.

Other important minerals exported are bauxite (of which Ghana has substantial reserves) and manganese. After cocoa and timber, minerals form the next most important group of foreign exchange earners—though at prices less volatile than the former. Together, minerals account for about 14 per cent of exports.

The main gold-producing region lies between Tarkwa in the west and Asofo in the east. Traditionally, the Ashanti were always associated with gold and used it for ornaments. The principal

goldmines are at Obuasi (owned by the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation and reputedly one of the richest mines in Africa), Bibiani, Prestea, Konongo, Dunkwa and Tarkwa. These last four mines, formerly privately owned, now make up the State Mining Corporation.

The mine at Tarkwa produced 55,000 oz of gold in 1975-76 and that at Prestea 100,000 oz. At Dunkwa, where alluvial gold is recovered, dredging operations produced 15,487 oz in the same year. There have been difficulties at Dunkwa because two dredgers sank, but new ones are on order and should arrive in April or May.

The gold produced in Ghana is of particularly fine quality and does not need to be refined to make it work-

able, as this would render it brittle.

Higher prices rather than increased production have been responsible for increased revenue. Thus in 1970, 703,900 fine troy oz were produced for a value of 2,585m cedis. In 1975, though output fell to 525,900 fine troy oz, this was worth 96m cedis. Production in 1976 was marginally higher than that of the previous year though still some way below 1974 output.

Diamonds have been turned to profit in Ghana since 1920. They are mostly small and of commercial rather than gem quality, and production consists mainly of industrial stones. The diamond industry employs about 2,500 workers but there are only 13 expatriates in management.

Unlike gold, industrial diamonds have dropped in price slightly. Thus in 1975 the production of 2,328,000 carats earned 13.9m cedis while in 1973 slightly lower

output of 2,306,000 carats earned 13.1m cedis. The Diamond Marketing Corporation of Ghana is responsible for grading, valuing and processing diamonds, and also purchases diamonds produced locally.

Manganese exports registered a 28 per cent increase in 1976 over figures for an equivalent period a year earlier. In 1975-76 earnings from manganese exports reached \$17.9m. Production and revenue from exports have increased steadily in the past few years, 292,000 tons being produced in 1970 and 408,000 tons in 1975. The target for 1976-77 is for export revenue of \$22m.

The National Manganese Corporation, which now has sole charge of production of this mineral in Ghana, has plans to diversify produc-

tion. A geologist is leading a team to investigate the manganese zone around the mine at Nsuta near Tarkwa. Attempts are also being made to interest foreign companies in the development of this mine, and allocations of 363,765,000 cedis for the purchase of capital equipment and 971,745,000 cedis for the purchase of spare parts have been made.

At present the manganese ore mined in Ghana is high grade, mostly of metallurgical quality, but plans to deal with lower grade ores have recently been made public and foreign investment has been acquired to realize this project.

Ghana also has substantial deposits of bauxite, the four main deposits being the Yenshin group, the Kibi

group, the Serwim group and the Ejumana group. The producing company is the Ghana Bauxite Company in which the British Aluminium Company has a 45 per cent interest. Much bauxite mined at the main deposit at Awaso in the Western Region is exported to British Aluminium's alumina plant at Burnt Island in Scotland. Bauxite production dropped slightly in the first six months of 1976 compared with a similar period a year earlier and is much lower than in 1974. There are plans for Ghana to use its bauxite to develop an aluminium smelter fuelled by hydroelectric power at the Volta River Project. At present input for the smelter is in the form of imported alumina.

Besides exploiting these re-

sources, preliminary studies into the practicability of operations at the Manso iron ore deposits are being carried out to develop them for export.

One of the main reasons for Ghana's present economic difficulties has been the increase in world oil prices. The country has hopes of finding oil. Onshore prospects are particularly promising, as traces of oil have already been found in the area close to the Togo border—a region some consider may be a little sensitive because of the question of secession, now apparently resolved or at least quiet. In any case, these deposits have not yet been shown to be commercially practical. Offshore exploration for oil is also taking place, but nothing has yet been discovered.

Timber is one of the better regulated sectors of the Ministry of Trade and Tourism. Controls are not exercised through production but all timber companies must have at least 40 per cent Ghanaian participation or, in the case of larger companies, 55 per cent state control in accordance with the investment policy decree which was implemented on January 1 this year. The GTMB has only one saw mill and although it has subsidiaries registered as exporters it does not itself export. It does, however, register all exporters of timber and their agents. It also insists that all contracts must be cleared with it in advance. It can and does

Timber industry grows in importance

by Patrick Gilkes

Ghana's timber industry has always been concerned both with local consumption and processing as well as with export production. Timber is the country's second largest foreign exchange earner and, though there was a time when output was confined to little more than mahogany in round log form, Ghana now exports a wide range of species both as round logs and as sawn timber.

Mahogany has been joined by such woods as walnut, rose, and odum, all of which are suitable for interior work, decorative veneers and furniture—and by other varieties. Round logs still remain the main sector for exports both in value and quantity, but there is a growing consciousness that they are the most susceptible to economic fluctuation. In 1975, export of round logs was some 85,000 tons up on the previous year but earnings rose by a mere 3m cedis.

The industry has been handicapped by the 1974 slump in prices and in demand; and there is still a glut in the European markets which are Ghana's main customers. This has encouraged a move to other markets in the Middle East and Africa. The Government has been especially keen on the latter and has set up regional timber depots, one near the Togo border and another at Bolgatanga in the north to supply Upper Volta. Trade has, however, still shown a downward trend.

Since the peak of 1973-74 when both earnings (at 130m cedis) and production (73 million cu ft) reached record levels, the 1975 production figure of 47 million cu ft was the lowest for five years. There is now a clear trend towards concentration on sawn and treated timber, veneers and plywoods which have more value a ton.

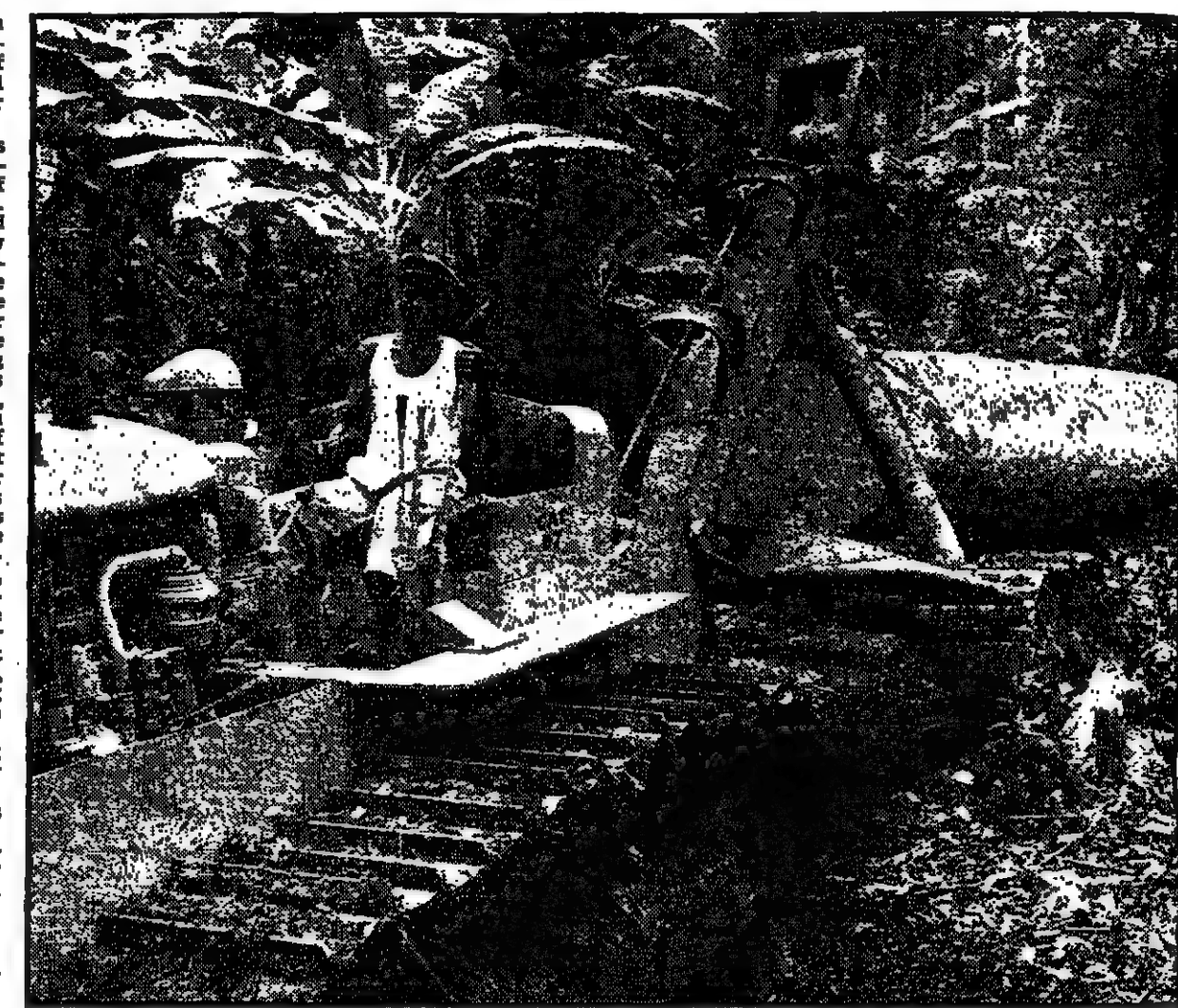
As one exporter put it: "As far as I'm concerned, there's no doubt that sliced veneer for high quality furniture is where the future lies." The relative values of veneer and plywood a ton underline his point. Veneers for export averaged 745 cedis a ton in 1974-75; plywoods fetched more than 820 cedis a ton. This compares with an average of 144 cedis a ton for round logs and 287 cedis a ton for sawn timber.

The Government has always insisted on maintaining the high quality of Ghana's timber exports. Trees grow longer and therefore bigger than they do for example in the adjacent Ivory Coast, and the logs of larger diameter are particularly suitable for high quality veneers. The Ghana Timber Marketing Board (GTMB) which is responsible for the industry, is determined to maintain standards. More than half the 1975 production went into local saw mills for treatment and the trend is being encouraged. There is every reason to believe the GTMB is contemplating banning, or at least limiting, the export of some 20 hardwood species to encourage production of local veneer and plywood. There are at present four veneer mills, and another three are being constructed. One is a 28m cedi project, West German financed, a wood processing factory which will employ 1,500 workers.

The move towards veneers and plywoods is not without its difficulties, however. Despite the dozen or so plywood mills, there is a shortage of plywood at present, both for local use and for export, caused not by any lack of timber but by the difficulty in obtaining the necessary glues from abroad. Import licences are hard to get, not only are delays common but it is a frequent complaint that the licences are diverted to less important needs.

The Government's recent allocation of import licences to the various sectors has led to expectations of an improvement in the industry's lot—some 60m cedis has been allocated to timber, and wood processing equipment was particularly mentioned. Other allocations have been made, more generally, for machinery and spare parts, and timber producers are hopeful this may ease the critical shortage of spare parts in their own industry. According to the latest official publication, only 51 of the country's 84 sawmills are operating fully—39 per cent are immobilized by breakdowns in machinery.

Timber is one of the better regulated sectors of the Ministry of Trade and Tourism. Controls are not exercised through production but all timber companies must have at least 40 per cent Ghanaian participation or, in the case of larger companies, 55 per cent state control in accordance with the investment policy decree which was implemented on January 1 this year. The GTMB has only one saw mill and although it has subsidiaries registered as exporters it does not itself export. It does, however, register all exporters of timber and their agents. It also insists that all contracts must be cleared with it in advance. It can and does



Hauling logs out of the forest and, left, unloading them at Takoradi harbour.

turn them down if it is not satisfied with the prices. By an agreement made with the Timber Trade Federation in 1975, the GTMB does not review contracts after its initial fortnight's consideration.

This arrangement arose out of GTMB unilateral activity in 1973 when, at a time of rising prices, it abruptly insisted on renegotiating contracts to take advantage. This action caused difficulties for exporters. It has not occurred and although there are some irritations the system does seem to work.

The GTMB has been criticized for some of its other activities. It has been accused of discrimination over import licences, over

the issuing of loans and over the distribution of open contracts. There is little doubt that some of these criticisms are deserved. The board's vetting of agents does not always meet with approval and exporters are not happy with the GTMB's pricing policies. Finding them too inflexible, "it thinks only of the price but there are other considerations," one exporter said.

Deserved though these complaints may be, there is no doubt that the GTMB can look at the timber industry with satisfaction, since it has continued to expand and is moving into more profitable areas.

Reserves of timber are still sufficient. Ghana's

forest zone covers 33,000 sq miles and there are no permanent forest reserves of 6,482 sq miles besides another 3,400 sq miles of reserved forests in the savannah areas. At least another 30,000 sq miles of savannah woodlands are unreserved.

There is, too, awareness that timber is a wasting asset unless replanting is carried out. A replanting scheme was begun in 1970-71 to supplement natural resources and there are well over 30,000 hectares of indigenous and exotic species now planted. As the present trend towards more local processing clearly is going to intensify, the timber industry looks set to be an important growth area in the near future.

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Press under effective self censorship

Ghana's media have enjoyed a long and chequered history which stretches back into the nineteenth century. The first newspapers were laboriously written by hand and circulated among the intelligentsia—rather like the *Samdada* material in the Soviet Union. One journalistic enterprise to become famous, and cause a good deal of unease among British colonial officials, was a witty column called "The Owl" which appeared in *The Echo* in which these Colonialists were satirized and caricatured.

Although there were a number of newspapers flourishing in Ghana before independence they resembled nothing so much as eighteenth-century British political broadsheets both in form and content—and the printing was generally appalling. They possessed considerable energy and radicalism, however.

Ghana's first really modern newspaper, the *Daily Graphic*, emerged in 1950 as one of a chain of West African newspapers set up by the *Daily Mirror* group based in London. It is still going strong and has a circulation of 152,000. Its stable companion, the *Weekly Mirror*, sells about 110,000 copies a week. To a visitor, one of the surprising things about Ghana's newspapers is how many there are for what is a

fairly small population of 8,500,000. There are three other daily newspapers as well as the *Daily Graphic*—the *Ghanaian*, *Times*, and *People's Evening News* and *The Pioneer* (the last two independent) and the *Observer* is based at Kumasi (not Accra). There are five weeklies, including *The Mirror*, *Weekly Spectator*, *Business Weekly*, and *The Patawa Tribune*. When I asked officials from the Ministry of Information if I could meet editors and journalists from the government-controlled media they replied reprovingly that it was government sponsored, not controlled.

What emerged clearly from my interviews was the existence of a very effective form of self-censorship—sort of mutual understanding between the Government and the press. One journalist said: "After all we have had some form of censorship here for 20 years: we know what we can write and what we cannot." A common criticism came from younger journalists who felt their editors (and the editorials) to be too timid and cautious.

Professional criticism was that journalists tended to pick up too many stories from agencies rather than finding their own. There was a lack of general agreement among journalists:

some felt quite happy with their situation and others complained of having been shifted to safer journalistic jobs, mainly in public relations, for not having followed the official line sufficiently.

This said, however, that the visitor is impressed by the number of critical, investigative and exposure stories—though not generally on politics. For instance, the *Daily Graphic* ran a story on February 2 "on the abuses of rice production entitled 'Are we on the right path?'"

The author says that many full-time farmers are bitter about the way combine harvesters are distributed. They claim that top civil servants and army officers are given preferential treatment by those who control the equipment. After describing the rice supply as "critical" the author points out that though the landing price of good quality rice is 25 cedis for 100lb the government rice mills charge 60 cedis for roughly the same amount. Low cattle production is also indignantly attacked for failing to play its part in the green revolution.

Perhaps the most sensational revelation in the press a few months ago was that Ghana's main teaching hospital at Korle had severed out of eight operating

theatres out of action because of shortage of spare parts. The revelation achieved its aim—the Government was horrified and immediate efforts were made to rectify the situation.

Much space is devoted in the press to the "enemies of the revolution," pilfering and hoarding. A recent edition of the *Daily Graphic* carried an emotional and indignant editorial on how pilferers at the Obuasi gold mines were "sabotaging the Ghanaian revolution" and calls for tighter security measures at the mines.

According to a feature in the *Ghanaian Times*, Ghanaians expect a lot from their journalists. They are critical of journalists who are "pampered by the Government and praising all its actions," but it says: "when journalists are sacked for criticizing the Government no one comes to their aid."

At the annual press conference with the president, General Acheampong, in January, questions were often pointed. Thus Mr. Osei Poku of the *People's Evening News* asked why two members of the Government were removed for involving themselves in the Briscoe affair. They were promoted before they left and retired on their salaries. He said there was "a public outcry over this" and asked why this action was taken. Gen-

eral Acheampong replied that officers were no longer retired on their pay as had been the case in the past. By far the liveliest newspaper in Ghana, it seems to me, is Chris Asher's *Palaver Tribune*—which bears as its motto "better to publish and be damned than to mislead the people." He combines a heady and at times indigestible mix of the sensational, the bawdy and the gossipy with some of the best investigative journalism in Ghana. Thus while one headline runs "Men's organs shrink after eating Thai oranges" (including the remarkable information that people are even afraid to step on orange peel in the street) and another asks rhetorically "Does honesty pay in Ghana?" the author concludes from "unimpeachable sources" that the two former members of the Government have not paid back the 349,707 cedis they owe for evasion of customs duties. He said he had been assured by a source that satisfactory arrangements had been made by the two.

How, he asked, could they have paid back the money and argued that "mathematically speaking the two would have to live 200 years before they could pay back the full amount." His "regional glimpses" hark back, perhaps, to the famous satirical column

"The Owl"; certainly any Fleet Street gossip column pales at its side. He seems disturbingly well informed.

Other Ghanaian publications include the *Ghana News Agency*, the main source of domestic and foreign news, and a range of other periodicals, including *Women's Love Stories*, *The Ghana Review* and so on. The Ghana Broadcasting Corporation has three channels and broadcasts in six main Ghanaian languages as well as English.

Three television broadcasts in Upper Region will be devoted to helping people improve their farming techniques.

GBC also has an external service and broadcasts in English, French, Hausa, Igbo, Swahili, and Arabic. Ghana Television, which started in 1965, has two studios in Accra and four transmitters. There are plans to cover a wider part of the country with a television network and there are plans to introduce colour.

At present more than 55 per cent of material is local. General Acheampong makes frequent appearances and revolutionary broadcasts and slogans appear frequently. There are approximately 33,000 television sets in Ghana but 660,000 viewers—20 viewers a set, although the figure for radio is only six listeners a set.

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Leyland Ghana is proud of its long association with GHANA—in the picture you see a Morris Cowley 1927, sent out to Gold Coast, dwarfed by a brand new MARATHON, recently purchased by the Ghana Cocoa Marketing Board.



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Bank paves way to cheaper borrowing with 11pc MLR

By John Whitmore
Finance Correspondent

Cheaper borrowing was taken away from the bank yesterday, with the Bank of England announcing a 11pc margin for the money supply and flat demand from industry for fresh funds.

Barclays' decision to cut its lending and deposit rates came shortly after the Bank's announcement on MLR. The cut in the bank's base lending rate from 11 to 10 1/2 per cent, while the cost of overdrafts will fall to a range of 13-15 per cent.

While cutting its base lending rate by one point to 10 1/2 per cent, however, Barclays has also widened its "margin" to 4 per cent by lowering deposit rates by 1 1/2 points to 6 1/2 per cent.

In part this is because there is no pressing need to attract new funds at the moment, but it also provides a buffer against the lower profitability that comes when rates fall. Barclays produced the lowest rise in

profits last year among the clearing banks, and it also pointed out yesterday that it operated on a 4 per cent margin for much of last spring and summer.

It may be that nervousness over the appropriate margin was one of the main reasons why the other clearers failed to come to any quick decisions yesterday. The banks are highly sensitive to the possibility of political criticism over their levels of profitability.

The sharp cut in deposit rates and the further fall in general money market rates should, however, be a great boon to the building societies. Against gross rates of 6 1/2 per cent on a Barclays deposit account and around 11 per cent payable on large sums deposited in the money market, the building societies' rate to investors stand at 7 1/2 per cent net, equivalent to 12 per cent gross.

The Building Societies Association is, in fact, holding its monthly meeting today, but

even the latest fall in interest rates seems unlikely to move them to offer any speedy relief to borrowers.

The attitude of the societies recently has consistently been that the priority is not to lower rates but to improve the flow of funds into the societies and thus to increase the amount of mortgage finance they can make available.

Mr Raymond Potter, chairman of the Halifax Building Society and present chairman of the BSA, said yesterday that "we would like to restore lending to what it was last year". This would mean lending of some £6,000m (against recent forecasts of under £5,000m) and require a net monthly inflow of some £300m.

The recent inflow is believed to have been of the order of £200m—though that is a considerable improvement on the mere £27m that came in last December.

Financial Editor, page 29

Third plant in Plessey occupation

Warnings from the management of Plessey Telecommunications that workers taking part in factory occupations on Merseyside risk losing their right to redundancy compensation failed to stop workers at a third plant joining in the protest action yesterday.

Senior management staff are now locked out of three of the company's factories at Kirby, Speke and Edge Lane, Liverpool, as a result of the occupations by three white collar unions, APSC, ASTMS and TASS.

The protest action follows the company's announcement last week of 4,000 redundancies in various parts of the country because of a reduction in Post Office orders for telephone exchange equipment.

Two Merseyside factories, "face factory" and a third cut in its face factory, are now occupied. A further move to try to secure Government intervention to help prevent some of the redundancies could emerge today when Mr R. F. Willems, deputy chief executive of Plessey responsible for the telecommunications division, meets Mr Willems, Minister of State for Industry.

This follows talks earlier this week between the company's management and representatives of the North-West Industrial Development Association, the Merseyside Development Association, the Merseyside County Council and other local authorities.

After these talks Mr Clifford Chapman, director of the development association, gave a warning that the closures and redundancies involving the loss of 1,300 jobs on Merseyside, would be a further serious blow to an area which already has 10.6 per cent unemployment.

Kenneth Owen writes: Mr Kenneth Cornfield, managing director of STC and president of the Telecommunications Engineering and Manufacturing Association, said in London yesterday that changes in technology could bring a drastic contraction in the industry.

Speaking at a meeting of the Royal Society, Mr Cornfield quoted the numbers of direct operatives needed to produce telephone exchange switching equipment providing the equivalent of 500,000 lines a year.

The change from traditional electromechanical equipment to semi-electronic systems, now taking place, meant a reduction from 3,500 to 1,250 operatives.

Berisfords Limited

Manufacturers of ribbons, labels, trimmings and lampshades

Year Ended 24th November

	1976	1975
Group turnover	£800	£535
Profit before tax	810	597
Earnings per share	10.0p	6.9p
Dividend per share	2.17p	1.99p

Mr John F. Sebire, Chairman, reports:

- Records achieved in both sales and profits, and future prospects are good.
- Export sales exceeded £1m and are increasing.
- Two-way consultation between Board Room and Shop Floor continues.
- Expansion and modernisation, under a five-year plan, has now started.

Copies of the report and accounts may be obtained from:

The Secretary, Berisfords Ltd., P.O. Box 2, Congleton, Cheshire CW12 1EF

Government stands by rescue of Chrysler

The Government yesterday defended its rescue of the Chrysler car company last year and rejected criticisms by a Commons committee of the way in which the rescue was handled.

These criticisms came in a report last year from the Trade and Industry sub-committee of the Commons Public Expenditure Committee.

Yesterday the Government welcomed the report and its broad acceptance of the final deal worked out by the Government to ensure the continued existence of Chrysler UK.

In the reply to the committee, published yesterday, the Government said Chrysler UK had prospects for viability and added that a strong and profitable Chrysler corporation—the United States parent company—was essential for success.

The recent announcement by Chrysler Corporation of substantial profits overall confirmed the Government's confidence in it as a partner in the reconstruction of Chrysler UK within an integrated European organisation.

It pointed to improved industrial relations, a bigger than expected contract to supply car kits to Iran, and closer integration with the European operations of the corporation. But it also said that the losses of Chrysler UK this year were greater than expected.

The committee criticized the Department of Industry for being caught unprepared by the sudden imminent collapse of Chrysler UK, and the ultimatum

Pay plea by directors of state boards

By Malcolm Brown

Directors of the boards of seven nationalised industries have appealed for talks with the Government on pay and conditions.

The plea came in a letter to Lord Peart, Lord Privy Seal, last night by the Association of Members of State Industry Boards, a recently-formed organisation which now represents 80 per cent of the full-time directors of the British Airports Authority, British Airways, Cable & Wireless, the electricity boards, British Gas, the National Coal Board and the Post Office.

Mr Denis Dodds, chairman of the association, warns Lord Peart that there is great bitterness among the ranks of his members, whose salaries have remained substantially unaltered since 1972.

The association's appeal comes after the announcement by Mr Archibald Willen, managing director of Cable & Wireless, that he is taking early retirement because of the invitation to resign. Many state industry directors are now receiving significantly less than senior employees in their own industries.

In the wake of the Cable & Wireless affair at least six other state industry board members are understood to be giving serious consideration to their positions. The association hopes to set up a permanent forum for discussion with the Government.

Pay plea by directors of state boards

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US ban on saccharine bitter pill for drinks trade

By Richard Allen

Any restriction on the use of saccharine would have serious consequences for the British soft drinks trade. Since the ban on cyclamates seven years ago there is no other substitute for sugar.

Both the United States and Canada have banned the use of saccharine within the past few days.

Hardest-hit would be the recently-developed and fast-growing low-calorie soft drinks sector, estimated to be worth more than £16m in retail sales.

But saccharine is also used in chocolate, coffee, cereals, canned fruits and a wide variety of food products. Food manufacturers generally, since the ban on cyclamates in sugar prices, have been turning to saccharine as an alternative.

Large users include Coca Cola, which in 1975 re-launched a low-calorie cola drink under the name Tab, and last year brought out Fresca, another low-calorie product.

Both make extensive use of saccharine. Sugar is used in Coca Cola's main brands, which also include Fanta and Lilt. Coca Cola was hit by the ban on cyclamates shortly after it launched Tab in the British market in the mid-1960s. It was withdrawn when cyclamates were banned, and only re-introduced five or six years later when the company was sure it could overcome the aftertaste associated with saccharine.

Another big saccharine user is Cadbury Schweppes, which has been marketing a range of low-calorie mixer drinks under the Slimline name. In addition, the group uses artificial sweeteners in some of its hot drink products.

A spokesman for Borden, the biggest manufacturer of saccharine in Britain, said yesterday that it was "keeping the situation under close review. We're very interested to look at the data on which the Americans and Canadians have based their decisions."

The British Soft Drinks Council, whose members use large amounts of saccharine, pointed out that under American legislation any substance that caused cancer in animals under experimental conditions must be banned from human use.

"The council understands that in the latest experiments there were fed massive doses of saccharine, which are far in excess of any possible human intake."

SE will scrutinize Tuesday's dealings in Cavenham shares

By Richard Allen

A Stock Exchange investigation into dealings on Tuesday, March 8 in Cavenham shares is being held. That was when Sir James Goldsmith's Générale Occidentale group announced it was dropping its bid.

The inquiry has been requested by the Exchange's quotation department, apparently as a result of "jobbers" taking place before the announcement was made.

According to market sources this selling did not result in any significant price weakness because most deals were matched by buyers, banking on Occidentale raising its initial 120p a share offer for the minority interest in Cavenham.

Immediately after the announcement that Occidentale was not going through with the offer Cavenham shares plunged 19p to 104p. Before the bid was announced they stood at around 94p.

Meanwhile, it became clear last night that Prudential Assurance, which holds 6 per cent of Cavenham shares is to select an early meeting with Sir James over the future of Cavenham. Sir James is in the United States and is expected

back in London early next week.

Institutional holders are known to be anxious about the uncertainties created by Occidentale's 51 per cent holding. There are also fears that Cavenham may be forced to sell off some of its French interests if the Occidentale majority holding were cut.

Occidentale's stake in Cavenham was built up from 39 per cent to 51 per cent as a result of a restructuring exercise last May. Sir James is chairman of both groups.

The reason for the 52m minority bid was officially stated as being "in conformity with Cavenham's policy" of acquiring the minority interests in all groups in which it had a majority interest.

However, Sir James at the time did not deny that the decision partly reflected his growing personal disillusion with the company, which he had increasingly hostile public companies have had to operate in Britain.

The original 120p a share offer was regarded by most market observers as merely a ploy to get the company out of the market, but it was a sudden withdrawal came as a complete surprise to many people.

CEI under fire from Electricals

By Derek Harris

An attack on the "dismaying complacency" of the Council of Engineering Institutions and on the shortcomings of a voting reorganization it is implementing was made last night by Mr John Lyons, general secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers' Association.

The EPEA, which is campaigning to widen its membership among professional engineers, was the only TUC-affiliated trade union operating in the private sector approved by the CEI in a recent survey of organizations for professional engineers.

Mr Lyons also made a strong plea for the Government to set up a committee of inquiry to place under public scrutiny the major problems facing engineers and manufacturing industry—the only way to improve the poor climate of opinion about engineers.

The CEI had made an error of judgment in publishing its opposition to an inquiry, Mr Lyons said. That was no longer a united view within the CEI, since two of its largest member organizations, the Institution of Electrical Engineers and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, had indicated their support of an inquiry if it were set up.

Nationwide Leisure loses Panel appeal

By John Brennan

A full meeting of the Take-over Panel ruled yesterday that Mr H. Dobson, vice-chairman of Nationwide Leisure, had not acted in concert with British Car Auctions, the motor dealing group that is bidding £671,000 for Nationwide.

The Panel rejected an appeal by Nationwide against an earlier ruling of the Panel's executive and confirmed that BCA need not increase its offer of one BCA share for every three Nationwide shares. Mr Dobson, who initially supported the Nationwide board's unanimous rejection of BCA's "ridiculously low" offer, later accepted the bid with another shareholder on behalf of 1,200,000 shares, 18.3 per cent of the total.

Mr Dobson also bought further Nationwide shares at 15p and at 20p in order to re-acquire a director's qualification holding, and subsequently accepted BCA's offer for part of this new stake.

The Panel has also given BCA permission to make a partial 10p a cash share offer to Nationwide shareholders, since, as Nationwide is unlisted, BCA cannot make market purchases. Nationwide has 3,500 shareholders, many with less than 1,000 shares, and BCA's advisors, Guinness Mahon, hope that the cash offer will bring out the acceptances it needs to push BCA's current 42.14 per cent holding and acceptance over the 50 per cent mark.

Broking firm suspension after junior's 'act of folly'

One of London's money brokers, Short Loan and Mortgage Company, has had its dealings in foreign exchange and currency deposits suspended for a month by order of the Foreign Exchange and Currency Deposit Brokers' Association. The ban has been imposed as a disciplinary measure, after a breach of confidentiality by one of the brokers' junior staff.

Short Loan and Mortgage was inclined to play down the significance of the original offence, but not of the disciplinary action taken by the association. Mr R. F. Laidlaw, the company's managing director, said that the association's action followed "a little misunderstanding on one or two things"; it was "just one of those things that happens from time to time".

The company, he said, had not agreed with the imposition of the sentence, but as a member of the association he felt obliged to accept its verdict. He said that the original offence had been "an act of folly, of a bombastic nature", by one of the company's juniors, who had said something that he should have not have done. However, the company accepted that it could not duck responsibility for the actions of its juniors.

Both Mr Laidlaw and the officers of the association were unwilling to discuss the exact nature of the breach of confidentiality involved; but it is understood that the junior employee in question had been indiscreet about some actions proposed by the association.

Short Loan and Mortgage has apparently written to the banks with which it normally has dealings, to explain the reasons for the suspension. It is, Mr Laidlaw said, voluntarily refraining from any foreign exchange or currency deposit business in order not to embarrass its customers.

Mr Laidlaw pointed out that the dealings from which the company is temporarily excluded (the ban lasts until March 21) are "not just a small part of our business". However, the company is much bigger in the sterling markets, and notably in local authority finance, than it is in foreign exchange; and in these areas it is not governed by the brokers' association.

Mr Tony Woellwarth, secretary of the association, pointed out that the one month ban was in effect a minimum penalty, and he was of the opinion that the ban on a "relatively small" part of its business would do the company little real harm.

Short Loan and Mortgage will still be able to deal multi-nationally—linking up, for example, clients in France and Italy—but the ban means that it will not be able to do foreign exchange or currency deposit business for its duration with London banks. Previous suspensions—there have been three in the past two years—have lasted for several months.

Adrienne Gleeson

In brief

OFT investigating concrete price pacts claim

By Clifford Webb

The Office of Fair Trading is launching an inquiry to ascertain whether restrictive trading agreements operate between suppliers of ready mixed concrete.

The decision comes after allegations in *Construction News* claiming that some suppliers operate price and contract sharing rings.

Ready Mixed Concrete, the largest supplier in the industry, said yesterday that it was conducting an internal investigation to discover if it had been party to any such agreements. RMC intends to issue a statement soon on the results of its inquiry.

The allegations suggest that don area and in the Midlands, a number of companies have taken part in the fixing of prices and allocation of work in the London of freezing out non-ring members.

Halifax lent £1.196m to homebuyers last year

Halifax Building Society last year lent £1.196m to 135,000

announced yesterday that minimum deposit rates to non-trade members and non-members will be increased to £10,000 per 10-ton lot, to holders of over 100 tons.

As a result prices in both the London cocoa and coffee markets plunged. Cocoa fell by £505 per tonne for "spot" March and £484 for May futures. Coffee fell by £345 per tonne for "spot" March and £383 for May.

Commodities, page 32

How the markets moved

The Times index: 170.49+1.04
The FT index: 413.8+3.6

Rises

Barclays 10p to 255p
Bell A 13p to 204p
De Beers 10p to 340p
Sun Alliance 10p to 247p
Duncan W 10p to 340p
Hawker Siddeley 8p to 534p
Geevor Tin 10p to 295p
Heath, C. E. 10p to 355p
Kaiser Utlmann 3p to 21p
McLeod Russell 10p to 205p

Falls

FMC 50p to 70p
Glaxo 10p to 115p
Harris Sheldon 5p to 43p
HMC 5p to 88p

Starting dropped 30 points to close at 171.55. Index of the pound's effective rate was 61.9 (December 1971=100) down 0.1. Gold was unchanged at \$146.625 an ounce. SDR-\$ was 1.15632 on Wednesday while SDR-£ was 0.672827.

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Rises

Norelco 5p to 57p
Rand Select 10p to 445p
Regional 3p to 35p
Sun Alliance 10p to 435p
Surrey Valley 5p to 40p
Unilever 6p to 458p
Union Discount 10p to 330p
Vickers 5p to 154p
Vickfontaine 4p to 42p

Falls

Stag Furniture 4p to 65p
Surrey Valley 5p to 163p
Ticentrol 4p to 134p
Tunnel E 3p to 163p

Commodities: Reuters index was at 1737.9 (previous 1732.8). Squitties lost early gains. Gilt-edged securities closed with gains of 51.

Reports pages 30, 31 and 32

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.52	1.57
Austria Sch	30.50	28.50
Belgium Fr	65.25	62.25
Canada \$	1.85	1.80
Denmark Kr	10.42	10.02
Finland Mk	6.75	6.50
France Fr	8.50	8.48
Germany Dm	4.28	4.06
Greece Dr	65.00	62.00
Hong Kong \$	8.20	7.75
India Rs	154.00	149.00
Japan Yen	516.00	486.00
Netherlands Gld	4.46	4.34
Norway Kr	9.33	8.97
Portugal Esc	69.50	64.50
S Africa Rd	2.01	1.88
Spain Pes	122.00	113.50
Sweden Kr	7.51	7.16
Switzerland Fr	4.55	4.33
US \$	1.76	1.71
Yugoslavia Dnr	34.75	31.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as quoted yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Do not take apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

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Derek Crouch (Contractors) LIMITED

Extracts from the Report and Accounts for the year to December 31st, 1976 and the Statement of the Chairman, Mr. D.C.H. Crouch

	1976 £'000	1975 £'000	1974 £'000
Turnover	28,002	21,502	17,880
Earnings before tax	3,817	1,134	933
Taxation	812	534	461
Dividends	301	274	247
Earnings Retained	704	326	225
Earnings per Share	10.36p	6.19p	4.87p

Dividend

An increased final dividend of 2.948p per share is recommended making a total of 3.5268p for the year against 3.2062p for 1975.

Results

Our business in the U.K. has remained satisfactory with all operations meeting expectations.

Future

We have acquired a modern office and workshop complex in Belgium for companies being incorporated in the Benelux countries. One of these companies is being established for sales of construction and mining equipment on the continent and this venture will establish headquarters in Europe for the many other opportunities which we expect to materialise in due course. We are well prepared for expansion as opportunities present themselves and I shall be disappointed if profits for 1977 do not reflect an increase on those for the year under review.

Head Office: Peterborough PE6 7UW

Telephone: Peterborough 222341 Telex 32129

FOR THE RECORD/BUSINESS

EMI is not scanning so fast but it makes more music

Boosted by increased music sales and a better performance from its hotels and restaurants, EMI pushed pre-tax profits ahead from £29.56m to £36.73m in the half year ended 31 December. But electronics profits grew by only a sixth and there has been a marked fall in the growth of the electrical scanner business in the United States. Heavy research expenses and increased intervention by regulatory agencies are largely responsible.

Racal wants £14.7m

A one-for-eight rights issue from Racal Electronics to raise £14.7m is expected to be a forecast pre-tax rise of three-fifths to £32m in the year to March 31 next. The prediction excludes the £1m profits from the Ultra Electronic Holding stake and any contribution from Milgo Electric Corporation. The £64.25m consideration for Milgo is to be substantially financed by a \$47.5m medium term multi-currency facility.

Midland Bank excels

Midland Bank has beaten many brokers' estimates with a doubled pre-tax profit of £166.4m last year. A £5m turnaround by the Thomas Cooke travel offshoot to £2.5m pre-tax, Bland Payne's contribution of £15.2m against £6.6m, and the absence of special provisions against advances augmented a strong contribution from the clearing business.

Uncertain for JFB

Helped by loss elimination and a first full contribution from N. Greening, half-time profits from Johnson and Brown reached £4.56m against £2.39m to help confirm the forecast rise to £11m pre-tax in the year to June 30 next. However, although the road, wire and engineering divisions are improving, the uptake in steels has not been sustained.

GLC raises £75m

The Greater London Council is raising £75m with a 13.5 per cent loan stock issue at £38.50. The redemption yield of 13.59 per cent is in line with the recent Corporation of London issue but a full two points more than Treasury 12 per cent, 1983.

Lloyds accounts

The Lloyds Bank accounts, which Sir Eric Baillenger presents for the last time, show a rise in the free capital ratio from 2.4 per cent to 3.5 per

cent accounted for by a rights and a tranche of euro-dollar notes. The free quality ratio is 1.3 per cent.

Delta recovers

Recovery will take Delta Metal profits from £11.6m to £23.4m pre-tax in the year ended 1 January last. Early conversion of the £8.1m convertible loan stock 1984-89 is proposed to strengthen the balance sheet with only a 11 per cent extra equity dilution.

Utd Biscuits glow

Despite a significant slowdown in the second half, United Biscuits pushed pre-tax profits up by a half to £33.25m in the year to January 31. As forecast at the time of the purchase of Wimpy from J. Lyons, the total gross dividend is held at the same proportion to 6.53p per share.

Turner & Newall

The long awaited improvement at Ferodo and a strong second half performance from plastics helped pre-tax profits at Turner & Newall to rise from

Financial

£21.6m to £35.4m. Cash balances stand at £48m and take in £20m in the US from the sale of Certain-Teed shares.

BSR sweetens yield

Aiming to increase its yield, BSR is offering a one-for-five rights issue at 105p to raise £15m. The dividend for the year to January 8 last is to be raised by 78 per cent to 6.2538p per share and by 15 per cent this year to 7.216p gross per share. Pre-tax profit last time rebounded from £9.45m to a peak £28.65m.

Development Secs bid

EMI's £26.1m bid for Development Securities values DS at £5.59 per share premium on net worth of 740p a share. Its cash element enables EMI to boost dividends by a third.

ICI's liquidity

After the £206m rights issue, ICI's net liquid resources have climbed by £275m to £469m which represents 121 per cent of the balance-sheet total. Scheduled capital spending will be £550m this year and working

capital requirements could be as much as £200m.

Woolworth pounds on

After a £100m sales rise to £705.18m, pre-tax profits from F. W. Woolworth climbed by 13 per cent to £40.97m in the year to January 31. In view of the need to keep cash in the business the net dividend is held at 3.95p a share, implying a rise in the gross total from 4.44p to 4.99p a share.

Barrow Hepburn-NEB

Barrow Hepburn is selling half its tanning interests to the National Enterprise Board for £500,000 after the injection into the business of £2.5m NEB loan stock. The effect will be to cut total borrowings back from £17.5m to roughly equal to risk capital of around £10m.

GKN-Sachs bid blow

The West German Carrel Office has taken further action to try to stop Guest, Keen and Nettelford's planned acquisition of 74.39 per cent of Sachs, the West German motor components group. The Carrel Office has appealed to the Federal Supreme Court.

HESTAIR

Hestair has placed its 181 per cent holding in Spear and Jackson with several institutions at 114p a share. Hestair has grossed a £400,000 profit on the £720,000 investment.

FISONS

Sales for 1976 up from £215.14m to £258.33m. Pre-tax profits rose from £16.68m to £18.64m. As forecast, total net dividend is 11.51p on increased capital, against 10.46p.

STEETLEY

Steetley rose 30 per cent higher at £211m, pre-tax profits rose by 45 per cent to £19.95m in 1976. Total dividend, gross, 8.88p (8.08p).

PAULS & WHITES

Pauls and Whites is making one-for-four rights issue to raise £3.34m and is forecasting much higher dividends and profits. New shares are offered at 72p each.

C. H. BEAZER

On turnover steady at £3.39m (£3.33m), pre-tax profits for half-year to December 31 fell from £445,000 to £322,000. Interim payment cut from 3.5p to 1.5p, but board expects year's total to be at least equal to year before.

3 directors in new Sainsbury board posts

Mr John Sainsbury, Chairman, J. Sainsbury, has announced the following board changes: Mr R. A. Ingham, with particular responsibility for the dairy, bakery and wine and spirits departments; Mr P. J. Davis, with responsibility for non-foods buying, marketing, research and public relations; Mr J. H. G. Barnes takes over board responsibility for branch operations upon the retirement of Mr P. A. C. Snow.

Mr Eric Rumley has been elected to the board of Phillips Petroleum Products.

Mr C. M. Fredericks, vice-president, has been appointed manager of the London branch of City National Bank of Detroit, succeeding Mr E. D. Wilson.

Mr Brian Wolters has been made executive director, exports, by Decol.

Mr T. Shaw has been made a director of Walker and Hamer.

Sir Alan Walker becomes a deputy chairman of Midland Bank from April 20. Lord McFadden is to relinquish his deputy chairmanship, will remain a director.

Mr E. D. Barkway, Mr D. W. Bartlett and Mr J. V. Woodham have resigned from the board of First Telford Investment Company and Mr O. A. A. Aisher, Mr G. Jackson and Mr D. A. Wickles have gone to the board.

Mr Christopher Pringle has been appointed to the newly-created post of vice-chairman of the Board of the British Coal Corporation.

Mr Roger Allen has joined the main board of BSR as sales director.

Mr Michael Mills has been made chief executive of Bayer UK's management and financial division. He succeeds Mr John Vennart.

Mr J. J. West, a director of Reckitt & Colman, is to join the board of Reckitt & Colman Australia. He will remain on the board of Reckitt & Colman and will become chief executive of Reckitt & Colman Australia during the year.

Mr Sam Walworth is to be Managing Director, Giron, on the Post Office Board from May 2. Mr Walworth is to be present managing director of the Rea Brothers merchant bankers. The appointment was made yesterday by Mr Vane, Secretary of State for Industry.

Mr J. A. Lawson joins the board of Twintek as financial director on April 1. He succeeds Mr D. H. B. Eason who will be leaving to take up another appointment.

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Since then it has been contested that the Act allows him to intervene after a recommendation to do so by a simple majority of the commission. He has since reaffirmed that he will not stop the merger.

In preliminary talks on the Government's consultative document on future price controls, the Confederation of British Industry and the Retail Consortium have asked for profit margin controls to be dropped.

The Retail Consortium particularly is angry about the proposed retention of gross margin controls and has given warning of a possible threat to jobs. Among other concessions, the CBI wants safeguards for companies to be more precisely defined.

Profit margins plea

The survey forms part of a new telecommunications information service, known as Tariffica.

ICI spending plans

Record spending levels on new fixed assets have been announced by ICI. It plans to spend £550m compared with the £440m last year.

The company also expects to

sanction new investment this year amounting to £700m. Two projects have been approved: a £50m plant on Teesside for the production of pure terephthalic acid, and a £15m plant to make Procion fibre-reactive dyes.

Electricity demand

For the third year running the Electricity Council has pruned its forecasts of future demand for electricity. It now estimates annual growth up to 1983-84 at 3 per cent compared with 3.3 per cent this year and more than 5 per cent annually

Construction falls 1pc

All construction work during the fourth quarter of 1976 is valued provisionally by the Department of the Environment at £3,262m, which on a seasonally-adjusted basis is 1 per cent down on the third

quarter and 7 per cent down on the 1975 period. For the year as a whole construction industry output fell by 4 per cent on 1975.

From C & W to Oxford

Mr Archibald Willer, who chose early retirement from the managing directorship of the state-owned Cable & Wireless when the Government refused to increase directors' salaries, has been appointed bursar of St Antony's College, Oxford.

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RETAIL SALES AND HP

The following are the seasonally adjusted figures for the volume of retail sales and value of new instalment credit released by the Department of Industry.

Year	Index	New credit released
1972	105.8	2,497
1973	110.7	2,871
1974	109.9	2,517
1975	107.9	2,092
1976	108.1	3,006
1977	111.1	715
Q1	105.2	759
Q2	105.4	749
Q3	105.7	769
Q4	107.3	844
1976	107.6	875
Q1	108.9	811
Q2	108.5	972
1977	110.2	282
Jan	106.6	276
Feb	105.4	280
Mar	108.1	281
Apr	106.8	291
May	107.3	292
June	108.8	291
July	108.9	305
Aug	108.9	319
Sept	108.1	317
Oct	109.2	332
Nov	108.3	330
Dec	107.2	324
1977	107.2	324

PUBLIC SECTOR BORROWING REQUIREMENT

The following are figures released yesterday by the CSO for the Government borrowing requirement:

	Government	Sector
1973/74	2,222	4,458
1974/75	5,124	7,832
1975/76	8,807	10,809
1974 Q1	364	876
Q2	741	1,547
Q3	1,010	1,712
Q4	1,467	2,242
1975 Q1	1,949	2,711
Q2	2,258	2,970
Q3	2,484	2,624
Q4	1,998	2,752
1976 Q1	2,067	2,279
Q2	2,000	2,758
Q3	1,798	2,400
Q4	821	1,760

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Surprise tactics by the Bank



Mr. Michael Pocock, chairman of Shell Transport & Trading, pressure on oil prices.

once the Bank of England had decided to do what the market expected and drop M.L.R. last Monday, the common assumption had become that the authorities had decided to leave things be until after the Budget. So once again the Bank has pulled something of a surprise, though, having said that, the end in money market rates was the last few days and the indication that this week's necessary Bill rate would drop all further was threatening to put the credibility of the Bank's M.L.R. policy under an untenable strain.

At the same time, it seems reasonable to assume that the latest banking figures, showing a sharp drop in money supply in the February banking month, must also be a cause of some concern. Certainly, it is possible to argue that January and February have given the policies adopted to be viewed as an exceptional period of adjustment to new circumstances.

Certainly, too, it is clear that the trend should now be reversed as the public sector moves back into heavier deficit over the final couple of months of the financial year and given the absence of any aggressive sales. But, the apparent lack of industrial borrowing must be a worry, despite the slightly more confident noises coming from industry, and the pressure for speeding the drop in interest rates must be increasing.

That, of course, might not accord with the authorities' other priorities, not least that of achieving a much smoother funding pattern in the next financial year. So unless there is some more tangible sign of an increase in industrial demand for funds over the next few months, the authorities would well have themselves in something of a dilemma.

Meanwhile, the remaining clearer will presumably follow Barclays' lead today, all of which is going to increase the clamour for a speedy cut in building society rates. The expectation, however, is that the societies may well stick to their guns for a while yet and see what kind of inflow they can produce at present rates. The fear, of course, is that the monthly inflow of around £300m needed for a lending target of £500m a month may simply not be there at any price. The unknown factor is just how much more the societies last autumn is now tied up in gilt (for a year where there are capital gains tax considerations) and the new, highly attractive National Savings issue.

Shell Encouraging pointers

Once again Shell's figures are hopelessly confused by controversy with the controversial American accounting standard FASB 8 on the treatment of exchange rate fluctuations. In the third quarter Shell had to take in a currency loss of £178m, while in the fourth the relative strength of the pound drew up a profit of £100m. But trading on these oddities leaves the fourth quarter outcome of £133m compared to £33m the previous quarter, which was some way below best stock market expectations.

Indeed, aside from gas profits which were surging ahead well, it looks as though Shell found the going extremely full towards the year end. The first half promise on the chemicals side failed to come through in the second with some falling off in profits. Oil

trading income was down, partly because of the normal seasonal shift in the balance of oil sales and the pressure on prices at the lighter end of the barrel where Shell is strong, and partly because of a significant rise in exploration spending. Shell Oil in the United States was also down on the quarter, although up by 37 per cent in dollar terms over the year as a whole.

But there are some encouraging pointers. Laid up tanker tonnage has fallen and now stands at only 7 per cent of the fleet, although admittedly Shell sees little prospect of further improvement. Europe, with the notable exception of the United Kingdom where marketing is still in loss, is performing strongly, and refinery utilisation in the final quarter was three points up on the third quarter at 77 per cent.

So there is no reason for any significant downgrading of profit forecasts for 1977, and stock market targets are for around £1,500m before currency adjustments and a p/e ratio of around 54 with the shares at 516p. The problem, as ever, is the yield of 4.2 per cent.

1976 (1975)
Capitalization, £2,850m*
Sales, £20,903m (£15,189m)
Net profits, £1,300m (£950m)
Dividend gross, 21.6p (19.7p)
*Shell Transport and Trading.

GEC's notes

Ready for the 'off'

GEC's share price was up another 1p at 197p yesterday after a 9p gain the day before and it looks as though a bull position is building up ahead of first dealings in the novel £178m floating rate note issue next Monday. The notes are worth 324p a share and logically this much should be dropped from the share price as soon as dealings begin.

But the market uniformly believes that there will be some heavy early selling of the loan notes and a fair amount of switching into GEC equity by investors who either do not understand the floating rate concept or who find them surplus to their equity investment strategy.

How long the enthusiasm will last is another matter, however. GEC has underperformed the market since the loan note scheme was announced as a result of disappointment that there was no dividend increase. As it is, the shares are selling at something over six times likely 1977-78 earnings and yielding only just over 3 per cent, which, considering GEC

has warned that its overseas expansion plans may not work to the benefit of United Kingdom shareholders in the short-term, does not leave a lot to go for.

What, then, of the loan notes themselves? They carry a margin of 1 per cent over six-month interbank rate, which would imply a rate of 12.16 per cent initially. But for the first time GEC reserved the right to raise the rate and this it has done, settling on 12.1 per cent. That should be some help in early dealings if the market is right and a weight of selling develops.

The notes will trade in the loan stock markets and there will be a tendency to measure them against fixed rate instruments, in which case a significant discount of at least two or three points could open up. Some 1982 corporation loan stocks for example are yielding close to 13 per cent. Existing loan stocks are not a very satisfactory yardstick, but it remains a sound general principle that when interest rates are coming down—and there were some raised at the meetings has been discussed—and agreed in detail with the trade unions.

Serck AE must pay more

Associated Engineering's motive for the takeover bid for Serck seems fairly clear. Recovery in Serck's main businesses of industrial valves and heat exchangers comes later in the industrial cycle than AE's products and have yet to benefit from any real upturn in demand.

So, Serck should begin to take off while the sharp growth at AE, which has come from increased margins from a switch to more diesel components and from replacement parts, could be tailing off. Moreover, Serck's large, successful heat exchanger business could help improve AE's continuing poor performance. Covrad, and some savings could possibly be made from small scale rationalization between Edmunds Walker and the radiator repair company, Serck Services.

As for technical and marketing benefits, AE says they exist; Serck says they do not. It would be churlish to suggest there were no points of contact but they do seem minimal. Serck's rejection document pledges capital spending of £15m over the next two years, which compares well with AE's plans. On the face of it there seems no reason why Serck should not grow as fast outside AE as within, while the new management, brought in with chief executive John Pinckard in 1973, has not yet had chance to show how well it can do in a good market.

The fears of the Serck workforce which have been so loudly and widely expressed seem exaggerated and despite Serck's dominant position in the United Kingdom heat exchanger market, this looks a bid which the Monopolies Commission should leave for the market to decide. The forecast of £2m profits from Serck this year against £7.1m coming entirely from increased efficiency causes problems for AE in that it means the nine-for-10 share offer still involved earnings dilution while Serck's increased dividend of 9.0p gross is covered almost twice.

At 90p Serck's shares stand above the offer from AE, worth, with AE at 88p, 88p a share. Shareholders in Serck lose income by accepting, and on the current terms AE cannot, and should not, succeed. But at the same time Serck can have little ammunition left and the future course of the battle will depend on AE's next step. A one-for-one with a little cash could bring Serck shareholders over.

Sixteen months ago, Mr. John Riccardo, president of the American Chrysler Corporation, was holding his famous pistol at the heads of British Government ministers. Today there are signs that a much more relaxed and closer working relationship has developed between the United Kingdom subsidiary and Whitehall.

Senior civil servants at the Department of Industry, which is backing Chrysler until 1980 with a maximum of £162.5m in grants and loans, have earned grudging respect from the man at the top of Chrysler UK for their expertise in monitoring every stage of the company's slow climb back to profitability. The Chrysler men were under no illusions, however, that after Mr Riccardo's blunt ultimatum that the United Kingdom operations would have to close, any Government rescue would be accompanied by the strictest scrutiny. That has taken the form of quarterly meetings with Department of Industry officials, and Mr Peter Griffiths, deputy managing director of Chrysler UK, admits that "there is nothing about us that Whitehall does not know".

More important, in his view, is that the Government knows what each firm raised at the meetings has been discussed and agreed in detail with the trade unions.

Now, after a year of hard talking with staff and shop floor representatives, Chrysler has announced a business plan that forms the basis for the planning agreement with the Government. Its establishment was a basic condition of the rescue deal.

Under the watchful eyes of a group of journalists, the agreement was signed this week by Mr Graham Bell, deputy secretary at the Department of Industry, and Mr George Lacy, managing director of Chrysler UK. The agreement, although it

has been forced upon Chrysler, should have provided the Government with a welcome boost to its industrial planning philosophy. However Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, backed out of the signing ceremony at the last minute and it was left to a senior civil servant rather than any of Mr Varley's ministers to wave the Government's flag.

Clearly, ministers do not want to be heard singing the praises of a United States-owned company which has been quietly drawing £40m of public funds to cover losses and a £28m state-backed loan, while the other car company propped up by taxpayers' money, British Leyland, is being threatened with a culture of future aid. Among industry's fears about planning agreements is that commercially confidential information contained in them could quickly become public knowledge. And reports over the last few days have shown that the Chrysler agreement has been leaked in detail from a number of sources.

Although Mr Varley and his advisers are cautiously optimistic about the future for Chrysler, this week's outbreak of labour unrest at the company's Linwood plant in Strathclyde has served to underline the fact, already amply demonstrated at British Leyland, that threats of closures, major redundancies, the setting up of machinery for greater worker participation and the injection of public monies do not guarantee sustained industrial peace in the motor industry.

Chrysler's management readily agrees that the company still has a long way to go in this direction, but it is believed that the process which led to the planning agreement has provided a unique opportunity to launch a new style of open management.

Chrysler workers now have access to more information than ever before, Mr Griffiths says,

Edward Townsend examines the challenges facing the American-owned vehicle group which has become the first company to sign a planning agreement with the Government

and the result has been a reduction of 95 per cent in man-hours lost through disputes in the year up to the end of February.

Continuation of this trend is vital if Chrysler is to achieve its objective this year at least to break even. Last year, the company made a loss of £42.8m, significantly higher than the £39.4m loss expected at the time of the rescue.

According to the planning agreement which covers 1976 and 1977 a profit of £300,000 is forecast for the end of this year. This will be reduced to £200,000 after the Government takes its share under the terms of the rescue deal. The original estimated surplus was £34m.

However, the reasons for the increased 1976 loss could wipe out any profits this year and the Government could again be subsidising the company. Of the £42.8m loss, just over £5m is put down to the pound's poorer-than-expected performance against the French franc, and higher interest charges have also boosted the deficit.

Chrysler stresses that if non-recurring losses of about £14m, caused by the lack of production at Linwood when assembly of the Avenger model was switched there from Ryton, near Coventry, and by other produc-

tion hold-ups, are subtracted the loss is much lower than the £35m recorded in the 1975 accounts.

In return for its detailed financial forecasts, Chrysler is also hoping to be taken into Whitehall's confidence. The planning agreement states: "The company expresses a need for frequent, detailed and long-ranging economic forecasts from the Treasury and other official sources and for data on prices, balance of payments, personal disposable income and durable spending."

The agreement also reveals that Chrysler UK is to play a far more significant role in the new expanded Chrysler Europe than was envisaged a year ago. Integration of the United Kingdom company with Chrysler's French and Spanish operations has all along been seen as crucial for its survival and significant progress has already been made in co-ordinating aspects like programming and purchasing, manufacturing and quality and in the appointment of European car and truck directors.

Much confidence is being expressed in the £24.4 new conventional-drive, three-door small car to be built at Linwood and launched in the late summer. Another 3,600 workers are to be taken on this year, 2,400 of them at Linwood. Originally the car was aimed at the United Kingdom market only, but now a European version is to be produced and the planning agreement earmarks an extra £22m for the 424 project this year, the funds coming from Chrysler rather than the Government's coffers.

In total capital spending by Chrysler UK for 1976-77 is £51.6m, an increase of £6.5m on the forecast at the time of the rescue, of which £2.6m is to be used to expand the Spoke plant at Coventry to provide engines and components for the European operations. The company expects to take

£14.2m in government tranches and £5.4m from the Chrysler Corporation this year. It also predicts that its total car sales this year will be 290,200.

The company's UK market share is languishing at present at about 6 per cent, but the planning agreement expects this to rise to 8.1 per cent by the year-end, with total home sales of 109,700. This is almost 40,000 more than envisaged a year ago.

Exports of "knocked down" cars should rise to 127,500 this year, of which 120,000 will be Hunters destined for Iran. The lucrative Iranian contract, the cause of the Government's desire to save the company from extinction, expires in 1980, but Chrysler is hopeful of an extension.

At home, productivity remains one of the key issues to future success and one that can be argued about only at plant level. The planning agreement points out that at the Ryton plant last September it was taking 58 man hours to make one Alpine.

This has dropped to 40 hours today and is expected to fall to 30 by the end of the year. Manning levels on the Avenger line at Linwood remain a problem.

Perhaps the real test for Chrysler in the coming year will be in industrial relations. Mr Griffiths agrees that the company's 8,000 redundancies introduced an element of cooperation that has evolved since then has kept everybody working, but causes of potential conflict are ever present.

Chrysler workers must know that profitability will not be enough. When the government aid runs out, Mr Riccardo and the corporation board will need to be convinced that the United Kingdom company will not once again be a brake on its long-term success is assured.

Kenneth Owen, Technology Correspondent

A world of information at the fingertips

Names such as Info-Line, Tymnet, Technote and Tins are heralding the public appearance of a new industry—providing information services via computer-based networks.

The computer-held libraries of information are called databases and as the technology (and the marketing) advances the cost of gaining access to the databases is coming down. Overall, the problem is simply one of trying to cope with the continuing information explosion.

Info-Line is the recently formed company whose main shareholders (an unlikely combination) are the Department of Industry, the Institution of Electrical Engineers, the British Library and the Chemical Society.

Despite parliamentary questions, few details of Info-Line have yet emerged, but the company's broad aim will be to provide immediate access to databases of scientific, technical, economic and commercial information. In this enterprise the three non-government partners will clearly act as information providers. To a certain extent the Department of Industry will also provide information, though its main role is the more general one of stimulating better information services for United Kingdom industry.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers, through its Inspect division, already operates a comprehensive information service for physicists and engineers. Inspect now claims to be the world's leading English-language abstracting service for research and development information in physics, electrotechnology, computers and automatic control.

From its computer-held database it prints 14 periodicals which circulate in over 120

countries; and supplies magnetic tapes to government, university and industry centres in 20 countries for their own information services.

Ease of access is important as these international services are used by some 400,000 users. For the past four years the Inspect data have been held in addition on the Lockheed "Dialog" system in Palo Alto, California and the tapes are also sent to a European Space Agency computer centre in Italy which provides a similar service throughout Europe.

The scale of the business is indicated by the figures for the Lockheed system, which is claimed to be the largest computerised information retrieval service in the world. This now holds some 15 million abstracts of technical reports and articles and the fifth database—that of the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau, Farnham Royal—is now being added.

Inspect's worldwide mailing list of 1,600,000, and its parent institution, and returning an 18 per cent profit on turnover. Eighty-six per cent of this income comes from overseas.

A recently new information service was launched in London by Control Data Corporation, Minneapolis, best known as suppliers of large computers. This concerned an extension of that company's "Technote" service, and a special-purpose link with the United Kingdom Inspect organization.

Technote is a sort of instant Exchange & Mart for technology; subscribers can enter details of available technology, which are held on a central database in the United States and Australia. Other subscribers can search the database remotely, via computer terminals, to seek a match with the items they need.

Mr William Norris, chairman and chief executive officer of Control Data, told an Institution of Electrical Engineers seminar in London that "the wheel is being reinvented every day throughout the industrial world, while vast amounts of existing technologies are underutilized".

A wealth of information and technology was buried in the libraries and laboratories of companies, governments and research establishments. The typical cost of a subscriber who files his technology items on the database might be about £50 a year. Users are charged for the time their terminal is linked to the computer, at a rate of about 24 for a five-minute search.

Among the United Kingdom organizations which have placed available items on the Technote system is the National Research Development Corporation, in an endeavour to find new world markets for United Kingdom technology in mechanical and electrical engineering, electronics, scientific instruments and computer software.

The Inspect link with the Control Data system is in a special database known as Tins (Technology Innovation Alert), which will be built up at the rate of about 10,000 items a year. These are items selected by Inspect staff from the scientific literature as representing genuine innovations. Subscribers are "alerted" when new material in their fields of interest is placed on the Technote system.

Access to the American and other information retrieval systems is becoming easier. The British Post Office recently announced arrangements to link the United Kingdom public network via Western Union International to the Tymnet database network in the United States. This gives access, for example, to the Lockheed system.

But the Info-Line development is proving controversial. The Computing Services Association sees no need for the Government to spend money on setting up a company to provide a new information service when existing CSA member-companies could write the software and run the service on their own networks.

According to Inspect, Info-Line will run its own machine-based system and provide services not only in the United Kingdom but which would be linked to a network to provide services throughout Europe. This reference is to the Europe network which should come into operation in autumn next year. It is expected that Info-Line will provide one of the centres in this network.

But Info-Line may yet decide to use an existing bureau service or bring in an outside organization to run the computer on a "facilities management" basis, rather than buy and run the computer hardware itself. The company has engaged Logics, the London software consultancy, to advise on the selection of the computer system.

This is one of the most urgent decisions which face Info-Line at present. The chairman of the board is Dr J. W. Barrett of the Chemical Society, and Mr David Martin, formerly with Inspect, is full-time general manager. The Department of Industry is providing a £200,000 loan to Info-Line "so that United Kingdom industry and research organizations will be able to obtain easy and rapid access to a wide range of databases in science and technology". The company's total capital investment is expected to exceed £500,000.

Whatever solution is chosen by Info-Line—an in-house computer or an outside agency—the transformation of the information retrieval business is a fact of life. As new organizations move into the expanding market, new technology should ensure that compiling a database in the next continent is just as easy, if not easier, than consulting a company or laboratory library in the next room.

Business Diary: Nationwide niggles • An inspector calls

If you are one of the 1.6 million depositors with the Nationwide Building Society, you may like to know what is behind the earlier that dropped on to your doorstep this week. It says that the board of the Nationwide would like you to defeat a special resolution by a fellow member to amend Rule 29.

This rule enables the directors to repay to a member his or her shareholding and interest, "without giving any reason". Words that the member in question would like deleted.

The reason in this case, business Diary's Ross Davies learns, concerns an investor with £10 in the Nationwide assets (£2,200m), who decided to transfer half his holding to his wife. In redeploying these assets the Nationwide computer calculated that the sum of the interest accruing to either party would be less than if the original 10 had been left undivided.

Disagreements over this sum have led to the special resolution concerning Rule 29, which will be thrashed out at the 93rd annual general meeting of the Nationwide at the Europa Hotel in London on March 26.

Even if the words "without giving any reason" were deleted, the board would still not necessarily be obliged to give its reasons, however. The termination clause was first instituted in 1961 to permit the Nationwide to elbow out its awkward squad among its investors without "prolonged and fruitless dispute". Members have subsequently

confirmed this power three times, in 1967, 1970 and 1974. The printing and mailing of the board's recommendations—a dispute over 1p—is thought to have cost about £45,000.

The result of the tussle at the Nationwide's annual general meeting will be closely watched by at least three other building societies which face similarly expensive battles by "barrack room lawyers". These Davies hears, are the Abbey National, the Britannia and the Magnet.

The directors of the Nationwide, meanwhile, are said to be wearing "on their grannies' honour" that Rule 29, if once more endorsed, will not be used to discriminate on grounds of sex, religion or politics.

Conflicting?

Questions are being asked about the handling of a Department of Trade inquiry into Dowgate & General and CST Investments, two of the companies formerly associated with Christopher Selmes, the controversial financier.

A number of erstwhile City personalities who have featured in the inquiry have lodged complaints with various government departments and the Bar Council over their treatment at the hands of the Department of Trade inspectors.

Chief among their criticisms is the fact that one of the inspectors, Joseph Jackson, QC, acted as a legal adviser to Selmes in a period immediately before the events now being investigated under the provisions of Section 165 of the Companies Act 1948.

Selmes, who is now based in New York, refuses to meet the inspectors. He told Business Diary that the reason for this was "a fundamental conflict of interests".

Jackson, he said, had been retained as a legal adviser on the financial aspects of his divorce in 1972, just months before he launched his takeover bid for the Grendon Trust, now one of the matters under investigation.

Other City personalities who have been interviewed by Jackson and given evidence have been shocked in the past few weeks to receive letters from the inspectors in which they continue to make provisional criticisms notwithstanding the fact that witnesses produced to back these statements have, in many cases, yet to be interviewed by the inspectors.

This has unleashed a flood of complaints to the Department of Trade, the Bar Council, the Lord Chancellor and the Ombudsman about the handling of the affair.

There is already some disquiet in the City over the general treatment of witnesses in a Department of Trade inquiry. Earlier this year the Ombudsman criticized the department's practice of publishing comments on individuals in its reports on company investigations after he had considered the case of Castle Life Assurance.

There have been other attacks, following the publication of investigations into



Christopher Selmes

Lombard and London & County, the collapsed fringe bank, on the principle of publishing criticisms of individuals under qualified privilege with no right of redress. The Department of Trade declines to comment on the Dowgate affair.

Take five

Harold Williams, a businessman and management teacher, is President Carter's choice to succeed Roderick Hills as chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Hills goes next month.

Williams' appointment, which requires Senate confirmation, will not be officially announced until security and financial clearances are complete—and there is a severe backlog as Carter's stringently imposed checks are observed. Carter is said to have made the appointment conditional

upon Williams' willingness to serve the full five-year term. This is because he will be the fifth custodian of the securities overlordship in five years—a frequency that has been unsettling to the agency.

Hills gallantly declares his success, "I am 45 to be potentially one of the best chairmen the commission has ever had".

The new boy is not all that new, being a member of the SEC's important Advisory Committee on Corporate Disclosure. He is Dean of UCLA's Graduate School of Management in Los Angeles, but until 1970 was chairman of Novotek Siman, the big food and fashion producers and has been president of Hunt Wesson Foods and Hunt Food Industries.

We now know that Alan Lord, Second Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, is joining Dunlop on July 1 in a "very senior capacity" and that he will be treating this as a "second career". It would be surprising if he did not join the board either on July 1 or soon after.

Sir Reginald Gaddes, Dunlop's chairman, is 65 in May and known to be considering retirement either then or soon afterwards. He is likely to be succeeded by Dunlop's managing director, Campbell Fraser, who will be 55 in May and might not want to retain the managing directorship indefinitely. Lord could move up quickly to become, say, deputy managing director, with a view to succeeding Fraser as chief executive.

County Bank Limited

preliminary statement for the year ended 31 Dec. 1976

Substantial advance in profits for 1976

	1972 £m	1973 £m	1974 £m	1975 £m	1976 £m
Pre-tax profit	2.02	2.68	3.11	2.29	4.27
Advances	41.3	60.6	88.9	146.8	166.9
Gross assets	431.4	440.0	452.2	470.3	494.6

County Bank

11 Old Broad Street, London, EC2N 1BB
and in Edinburgh, Leeds and Manchester

© National Westminster Bank Group

BLUNDELL-PERMOGLAZE HOLDINGS LIMITED



"The raising of pre-tax profits above £1 million in a year when many difficulties still face the United Kingdom is a positive indication of the strength of the Group."

N. G. Bassett Smith C.V.O. Chairman

- The business showed solid improvement with a 7% increase in volume against a minimal increase by the industry.
- Profits after tax were £478,326 compared with £407,098.
- Earnings per share increased from 6.4p to 7.5p.
- Exports reached a new record of £1,413,047.
- Strong liquid position at year end.
- Total dividend distribution at maximum permitted.

At the Annual General Meeting held in London on 9th March, 1977, the Chairman said:

"Our budget this year provides for a continuance of our progressive profit record of recent years. I am satisfied with the results in the early months and am, therefore, confident I shall be reporting a further improvement in profits at the year end."

The Industrial side particularly has made the best start to the year it has yet experienced and export sales volume is at a record level."

A copy of the Annual Report may be obtained from The Secretary, Blundell-Permoglaize Holdings Limited, York House, 37 Queen Square, London WC1N 3BL.



Road hauls keep Trans Dvlpmt on the move

By Richard Allen
Transport Development's 140 or so road haulage subsidiaries were behind a 22 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £14.8m last year.

Road haulage profits leapt 50 per cent to just over £7m, but storage and transport services virtually mirrored time at £6.5m. Exhibition and reinforcement business slipped a bit to £1.2m. Turnover went up from £129m to £165m. A gross final dividend of 2.85p takes the total up by the maximum to 4.38p, allowing for last year's scrip issue on April 1. A share rose from 4.81p to 5.62p.

The group thinks that its flexible holding structure has helped carry it through the road haulage recession better than most competitors. It reports that profits so far this year are ahead of those for the corresponding months, though construction is inevitably finding the going tougher.

Shares closed unchanged at 56p.

MARCHWIEL HOLDINGS has how rapidly and successfully Marchwiel can develop overseas, reports Mr A. J. McAlpine, chairman. In his annual reports again this year, but a fall in turnover is likely.

Stock markets

Leyland jitters upset MLR gains

Equities had their busiest day for five weeks as sharp gains, which followed a surprise cut in the Minimum Lending Rate, were largely lost after gloomy news from British Leyland and the miners.

Gilt-edged stocks also saw a brisk two-way trade, but for the same reasons finished well below their best with gains of about 1p.

The 1 per cent MLR cut brought a sharp burst of buying on an already firm equities market and between midday and 1 pm the FT index jumped more than six points, to take it over 420 for the first time since May 5 last year.

But this euphoria was short-lived as news came in of the rejection of the Leyland peace formula and the miners' opposition to another round of pay restraint. The mood was quickly reversed and by the close the index, 10.3 better at 1 pm, stood at 413.5, a net gain of 3.5. This was still its best level for almost 10 months.

Stone-Platt hardened 1p to 108p, just 1p from the 1976-77 "high" and well away from last year's low of 67p. Several brokers hope that the group is now moving gently off the bottom of the textile machinery slump. The 1976 figures, due in a fortnight or so, could show a profit of up to £13.5m against 1975's £11.2m. Some hope for £15.5m this year. Much depends on further signs of slump ending and acquisitions for cash.

Long-stated girls held on to their overnight levels until the Bank of England's announcement and then quickly put on £1.75 as the demand built up. The industrial news then clipped three-quarters from the best levels, leaving most stocks with net rises of about one point.

"Shorts" opened one-eighth better, added seven-eighths in mid-session and ended about five-eighths ahead.

The eagerly-awaited figures from Shell proved to be something of a disappointment and the shares slipped 2p to 516p after 520p. With the proposed Alaskan cash casting a shadow over the pitch, BP eased 2p to 880p, while of the smaller issues, Tricentrol was the weakest, losing 4p to 134p.

Among the "blue chips", Arthur Bell (21p) so far this week, 3p to 99p from Bass Charrington, 3p to 139p from Guinness and 3p to 130p from Distillers.

In engineers, Vickers saw some interest and gained 7p to 164p while Hawker Siddeley were 8p to the good at 534p. Random features saw Comet Radio jump 7p to 75p, Royal

Budget will see some tax concessions being made.

Among stores, British Home Stores rose 7p to 180p, and Marks & Spencer lost ground to end a penny firmer at 108p. Consumers had Decca "A" 5p better at 280p and Thora "A" up by 4p to 260p.

Encouraging reports from the industry and continued speculative interest kept the drinks sector in the spotlight with gains of 12p to 204p from Arthur Bell (21p) so far this week, 3p to 99p from Bass Charrington, 3p to 139p from Guinness and 3p to 130p from Distillers.

In engineers, Vickers saw some interest and gained 7p to 164p while Hawker Siddeley were 8p to the good at 534p. Random features saw Comet Radio jump 7p to 75p, Royal

Worcester gain 5p to 117p and Derek Crouch 5p to 65p on reports of Midland reserves.

Though unaffected by interest rate cuts the clearing banks were strong, notably Barclays where the rise was 10p to 250p. The one to go against the trend was National Westminster, 3p off at 235p.

European Ferries was one of the few to hold on to its level. Persistent buying had the shares 6p better at 65p. Optimistic traffic reports from the hard-won Felixstowe docks were an obvious spur, but some are convinced that a state is growing.

The interest rate reduction gave an immediate boost to property shares. Additional help for the approach for the Canadian interests, MENC, jumped 6p to 80p and there were other good gains.

Bank of Scotland shares stood to benefit from a price rise in the money and here Marchwiel to 165p, Costain 4p to 160p and housebuilder Barrat Developments 3p to 79p held on to their best levels. But allegations of a price ring lowered Readyway by 5p to 88p.

Tea shares were again in demand and this time additionally helped by the Bangladesh decision to relax dividends for overseas companies. Strength was to be found in Longhouse up another 15p to 165p, and Surnah Valley 5p to 40p.

According to Exchange Telegraph, active stocks yesterday were ICI, Gus "A", Marks & Spencer, Shell, BAT Dtd, Barclays, GEC, Lucas, Thora "A", Grand Metropolitan, Dunlop, British Home Stores, Boots, B. Beers, Charrington, Tate & Lyle and Reckitt & Colman.

Notice of Redemption

International Standard Electric Corporation

9% Sinking Fund Debentures Due 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of April 1, 1970 between International Standard Electric Corporation and The Chase Manhattan Bank (National Association), as Trustee, \$3,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of the above-captioned Debentures will be redeemed for the sinking fund on April 1, 1977 at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to April 1, 1977.

The numbers of the Debentures to be redeemed are as follows:

7	1448	2748	4044	5379	6682	8279	9995	10926	12237	13377	14570	15728	16888	17744	18736	19923	21128	22256	23889	24748	26283	27389	28353
12	1488	2767	4080	5386	6637	8295	9995	10829	12230	13377	14570	15728	16888	17744	18736	19923	21128	22256	23889	24748	26283	27389	28353
14	1481	2778	4089	5388	6642	8310	10011	10845	12246	13393	14586	15744	16902	17858	18844	19931	21136	22264	23897	24756	26291	27397	28361
16	1473	2776	4072	5391	6642	8310	10011	10845	12246	13393	14586	15744	16902	17858	18844	19931	21136	22264	23897	24756	26291	27397	28361
18	1476	2780	4077	5405	6657	8348	10049	10883	12284	13431	14624	15782	16940	17896	18882	19972	21177	22302	23935	24794	26329	27435	28399
20	1469	2793	4083	5411	6665	8378	10070	10904	12293	13440	14633	15791	16949	17905	18891	19978	21183	22311	23944	24803	26338	27444	28408
22	1487	2808	4094	5443	6673	8383	10081	10915	12304	13451	14644	15792	16950	17906	18892	19979	21184	22312	23945	24804	26339	27445	28409
24	1495	2814	4090	5450	6675	8384	10082	10916	12305	13452	14645	15793	16951	17907	18893	19980	21185	22313	23946	24805	26340	27446	28410
26	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
28	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
30	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
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34	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
36	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
38	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
40	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
42	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
44	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
46	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
48	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
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56	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
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62	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
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90	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
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96	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
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102	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
104	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
106	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
108	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
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112	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19981	21186	22314	23947	24806	26341	27447	28411
114	1498	2822	4111	5459	6679	8393	10083	10917	12306	13453	14646	15794	16952	17908	18894	19							

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

gains Blagden & Noakes' upsurge
s coming off the boil

Ray Maughan

Strong demand for steel plastics containers surprised Blagden & Noakes in the 53 weeks to January 2 last. After a 10 per cent increase at the end of 1976, pre-tax profits were up by more than 56 per cent to £3.78m.

The initial market reaction was strong. At one point the shares were up to 152p; but the close they were down 146p.

Although the "kink" produced by a £3.13m pre-tax profit for 1974 has been ironed out, dealings were later subdued by a warning from Mr J. K. Noakes, chairman, that this year has opened weaker.

"Since the start of 1977", he says, "there has been some falling off in demand." The volume decline is estimated at around 5 per cent, which Blagden puts down to seasonal factors and a minor adjustment of stocks.

Business in oil, paints and chemicals has been buoyant for 12 months—particularly in the group's indirect exports. Now the outlook is less clear, and Mr Noakes commits himself to no more than "at least comparable results this year".

Market disappointment also arose from the failure to raise the 4.4 times-covered dividend of 9.12p per share gross by more than the maximum, where the yield is still only 6.3 per cent.

Plans to best dividend curbs have been a matter of speculation for some time. Gearing is almost non-existent, and Blagden is well placed to launch a cash-and-paper offer for a suitable competitor.

Wall Street

New York, March 10.—Stocks closed mostly higher on the New York Stock Exchange. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 3.83 points to 1,173.75. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by about 825 to 569.

Volume totalled 18,620,000 shares, compared with 19,680,000 on Wednesday.

Spot March cocoa

March 27 cents

New York, March 10.—Cocoa, the futures market, closed at 141.75 cents for March delivery, up from 141.50 cents on Wednesday. The price of the contract, which is the basis for the London market, was up 1/4 cent to 141.75 cents. The price of the contract, which is the basis for the London market, was up 1/4 cent to 141.75 cents.

Gold

New York, March 10.—Gold, the futures market, closed at \$340.00 per ounce, up from \$339.50 on Wednesday. The price of the contract, which is the basis for the London market, was up 1/2 cent to \$340.00.

Oil

New York, March 10.—Oil, the futures market, closed at \$10.00 per barrel, up from \$9.95 on Wednesday. The price of the contract, which is the basis for the London market, was up 1/2 cent to \$10.00.

Grain

New York, March 10.—Grain, the futures market, closed at \$1.50 per bushel, up from \$1.45 on Wednesday. The price of the contract, which is the basis for the London market, was up 1/2 cent to \$1.50.

Stocks

New York, March 10.—Stocks, the futures market, closed at 117.75, up from 117.50 on Wednesday. The price of the contract, which is the basis for the London market, was up 1/4 cent to 117.75.

Stocks power Strong & Fisher

Fashion leather manufacturer Strong & Fisher sent pre-tax profits soaring by 63 per cent to £1.05m in the six months to November 30 on a leap in sales of as much as 73 per cent.

The interim dividend goes up from 2.04p gross to 2.615p gross. Earnings a share were 11p, against 7.9p and 15.9p for the whole of the year before.

Leather turnover rose from £5.08m to £6.9m, thanks to higher prices and volume.

Other aspects of the business grew from £1.86m to £4.82m, reflecting new subsidiary companies and substantial rises in hides, skins and wools.

dend will be 25p in the pound. The liquidators think further payments are possible in due course; and they expect distributions amounting to "about 50p" in the pound will eventually be made to all creditors.

Francis placing to raise £590,000

As hinted by Mr D. M. Saunders, chairman, earlier this week with the 1976 figures, Francis Industries is to reduce gearing through a placing. It will be 1.39m ordinary shares at 36p each, a discount of 6p and raise about £590,000. A special interim dividend of 0.5p net will be paid on the enlarged capital.

The board also forecasts dividends for this year to December 31 of 3.37p net, including the special payment. This contrasts with 2.53p net a share for 1976. The Treasury agrees.

Francis, which produces drums as well as products for the car industry, nearly trebled pre-tax profits last year from £467,000 to £1.33m.

Cement-Roadstone in 35 pc gain

Cement-Roadstone Holdings, Ireland's biggest industrial group, beat earlier cautious 1976 forecasts with a 34.7 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £11.66m.

The group, with construction, agricultural products and chemical divisions in Ireland, Britain and Holland, benefited from lower interest costs after last year's £8.15m rights issue; exchange gains on profits brought growth in most products. The dividend, 2.6 times covered, rises by 19.3 per cent to a gross total of 4.06p a share.

Galliford Brindley

To follow record pre-tax profits for the year to June 30, Galliford Brindley now reports a 24 per cent rise to £1.17m for the six months to December 31. This is the first time that this building, engineering and plant hire group has passed the £1m mark at half time. Turnover rose from £16m to £16.5m.

But the directors are holding the dividend at 1.15p gross even though earnings a share were 4.68p against 4.26p.

V & G 25p in April

Messrs Paul Shewell, of Coopers and Lybrand, and Kenneth Cork (W. H. Cork, Gully), joint liquidators of companies in the Vehicle and General group, will be dispatching over 400,000 dividend cheques in April to the admitted creditors. The first interim divi-

Naught from Needlers

With reorganization under way, Needlers, the chocolates and sweets group, hopes to make money in the second half of 1977 and finish the year breaking even. A reasonable profit is looked for in 1978.

But the year to January 1 saw a loss of £251,000 against

Trusts' merger timing

Shareholders in two big investment trusts in the Electra House Group, Cable Trust and Globe Investment Trust, should hear within the next month firm news about the merger proposal, says Mr Alastair Roger, who heads both boards.

BRITISH AMERICAN AND GENERAL TRUST LIMITED

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr W. H. Conroy and summary of the results for the year ended 31st December, 1976.

- Fully diluted net earnings for 1976 show an increase of almost 16% over the previous year. The total ordinary dividend for the year is 1.40p per unit compared with 1.25p per unit paid for 1975.
- At the end of 1976 net asset value was 43p per share compared with 40p per share, representing a rise of 6.2%. This compares with a fall of 3.9% in the F.T. Actuaries All Share Index.
- The overseas content of the Trust's portfolio was 36.3% at the year-end compared with 34.8% a year earlier. This was due to the relatively better performance of overseas markets and the effect of the huge fall in sterling.
- It is the philosophy of this Trust to provide its shareholders with a steadily rising income coupled with a long term growth in asset values. The investment trust movement as a whole has achieved a very good performance of total return over a long period of time and as such offers an attractive medium for those wishing to invest their savings responsibly with the benefit of professional management.

	1976	1975
REVENUE AVAILABLE FOR ORDINARY STOCK (Net) (*increased during 1976 by the conversion of loan stock) EARNED FOR ORDINARY STOCK (Net)	£718,660	£604,877
TOTAL ASSETS Attributable to Ordinary Stock Net asset value per Unit of 25p	1.40p £22,702,050 £21,027,000 43p	1.25p £21,373,000 £18,873,000 40p

Managers—Kleinwort, Benson Limited
Annual General Meeting—20 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.
Friday, 1st April, 1977 at 11.30 a.m.

The names

Dorma · Dhobi · Aertex
Louis Philippe · Ewvaprest · Clydella
Allen Solly · Rocola · Peter England

behind the name

Quest · Viyella House · Yorkers
Van Heusen · Old Bleach · Viyella
Driway · London Pride · Quelrayn

Carrington Viyella

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman and the Directors' Report for the year ended 31 December 1976:

"I believe that the results of the Company in what has been a most difficult year augur well for the future... any improvement in the general trading climate at home or abroad will enable us to look forward to increased profitability."

Mr. L. Regan, Chairman

effectively it must be made up of directors who have wide experience and mature judgement... together with specialist knowledge and skills. We earnestly hope the Government will heed the arguments put forward by the CBI and reject the majority report recommendations as unworkable and harmful.

Outlook

The order book at the end of 1976 shows approximately a 29% increase from the end of 1975 and the export performance is expected to improve again in 1977. Certain loss making activities have been eliminated and continuing benefits will be achieved from the rationalisation of the business.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at The Dorchester, Park Lane, London W.1., on Thursday, 31 March 1977 at twelve noon.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts can be obtained upon request to the Secretary, 24 Great Pulteney Street, London W1R 3DB.

RESULTS IN BRIEF	1976	1975
Sales	£'000	£'000
Operating profit	278,157	232,776
Profit before tax	19,563	10,951
Profit attributable to		
Ordinary Shareholders	5,258	2,032
Ordinary Dividends	2,635	2,395
Earnings per Ordinary Share	3.76p	1.84p

Carrington Viyella Ltd



MIDLAND INDUSTRIES

Record Results Again

- * Pretax profits up 46 pc to £1,345,000
- * Turnover up 21 pc to £15 million
- * Basic earnings 5.78p per share (1975: 3.78p)
- * Diluted earnings 4.99p per share (1975: 3.15p)

In the current year, progress is being made in all areas. We have consolidated the Heating and Process Control and the Plastics Machinery Divisions into a new Company—BVM1—and a new factory. We are continuing our expansion policy in MIL, the Agricultural Equipment Company, but we still have a long way to go. Battles, the Steel Flooring Manufacturer, continues to diversify profitability.

The RMI Division continues to make a substantial contribution to Group profitability. Unfortunately, due to loss of traditional work, the Scottish Foundry could no longer continue to operate on the diminished demand and we have been left with no alternative but to close it.

E. C. Marsland, Chairman.

Heath Town Works, Wolverhampton, WV10 0GD

Briefly

HUNT & MUSCROFT

Rights issue of 2.6m shares on 1:6 basis at 8p. Turnover for half-year rose from £5.26m to £5.5m and pre-tax profits from £245,000 to £285,000. Dividend, 0.366p gross (0.333p).

H. F. MARTIN

Turnover for half-year, £1.3m (£1.37m); pre-tax profit, £22,000 (£23,000). Gross dividend, 3.85p (3.84p).

AFRICAN LAKES CORP

Pre-tax profits for year to July 31, 1976, up from £661,000 to £1m. Gross payment, 6.77p (6.15p).

S. CONSTRUCTIONS BID OFF
Talks on Southern Constructions (Holdings) taking over Elmer Group have ended.

JOSEPH SHAKESPEARE

Turnover for 1976, £6.5m (£5.48m); pre-tax profit, £769,000 (£705,000). Gross payment, 2.65p (1.22p).

PREMIER-BALL & COLLINS

Purchase of Ball and Collins (Oil and Gas) by Premier Cons Oilfields will now depend on Premier's shareholders' approval in general meeting.

DAWNAY DAY-FLORENT

Directors of Florent, who are both directors of Dawnay Day, and their advisers, make no recommendation on offer. Shareholders should seek professional advice.

Scottish United Investors

Benefits from Dollar Holdings

The investment portfolio retains a consistent pattern—Increase in Far East reflects the year and strength of the Tokyo market despite the withdrawal of £1m for UK reinvestment during the year.

Position in USA benefited from the favourable sterling conversion of dollar investments and from useful increases in earnings and dividends from holdings of long standing.

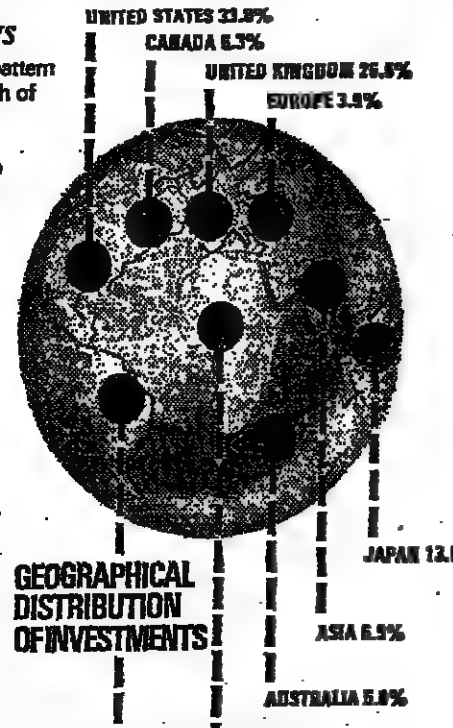
The UK portfolio reflects the comparatively strong performance of the oil sector, notably the holdings in London and Scottish Marine Oil and Scottish Canadian Oil and Transportation.

Having regard to the company's very strong asset position the Board recommends an increased total ordinary dividend of 1.70p at a cost of £1,205,949. Robert C. Smith, Chairman

Summary of the Year	1976	1975
Total assets	£87,852,039	£82,516,747
Net assets	77,234,485	65,946,663
Net asset value	108p	90p
Gross revenue	3,580,729	3,077,123
Net revenue	1,155,579	1,133,868
Dividend	1.70p	1.55p

SCOTTISH UNITED INVESTORS LIMITED,
37 RENFIELD STREET, GLASGOW, G2 1JU

EQUITIES 98.3% FIXED INTEREST 1.7%



Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank	11 1/2%
Consolidated Credits	11 1/2%
First London Secs	11 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co.	11 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	11 1/2%
Midland Bank	11 1/2%
Nat Westminster	11 1/2%
Rossminster Acc's	11 1/2%
Shenley Trust	14%
Williams & Glyn's	11 1/2%

The Standard Life Assurance Company

THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held in the Head Office, 3 GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH on TUESDAY, 22nd MARCH, 1977 at 2.30 p.m.

By Order of the Board of Directors
D. W. A. DONALD
General Manager & Actuary

Edinburgh.
8th March, 1977.

M. I. H. NIGHTINGALE & CO. LIMITED

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75	27	Airsprung Ord	34	-1	4.2	12.4	6.7
117	100	Airsprung 181% CULS 17	18	-1	18.5	15.8	7.7
32	25	Armltage & Rhodes	28	5	3.0	10.7	7.7
114	96	Deborah Ord	97	1	1.0	10.7	4.9
12	104	Deborah 171% CULS	108	-1	17.5	16.2	7.7
62	45	Henry Sykes	49	-1	2.2	4.5	12.7
61	55	James Burroughs	80	-1	6.0	7.5	5.7
233	18	Robert Jenkins	219	-1	25.0	11.4	4.9
24	8	Twinkford Ord	35	-1	12.0	20.0	7.7
64	3	Twinkford 171% ULS	60	-1	11.1	6.9	8.0
71	51	Unilock Holdings	55	-1	6.1	11.1	6.9
63	65	Walter Alexander	71xd	+1	5.8	8.2	8.0

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